factsheet five

31

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Rensselaer, NY
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JEFFCURTIS. 1989. 4-K.

Nocturnal Records M/32

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ISSN 0890-6823

This magazine was set in Palatino six and seven point on a Hewlett Packard LaserJet Series II printer, from files produced using Sprint, and printed on a Goss Community press at World Printing, Albany, New York.

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The Friendly Janitors, Inc.

Approved by
Eighteenth Century
Communications, Ltd.

FACTSHEET FIVE is published six times a year appearing in the mails on or about the tenth of February, April, June, August, October, and December. Subscriptions are available at $2.00 (cash, check, Money Order or mint US postage stamps) per issue, up to 6 issues in advance. A six-issue subscription is $11.00. These copies are sent Bulk Mail within the US, First Class to Canada and Mexico, and Surface Mail overseas.

First class subscriptions within the US are available at $2.75 per issue, while Overseas Airmail may be had for $5.00 per issue. Six issues at First Class postage is $15.00. Library subscriptions (available to anyone who wants the index) are $3.50 per issue, or $18.00 for six issues, and include first-class mailing in envelopes and the quarterly index. A Lifetime Subscription, with First Class mailing anywhere on the continent, is $75. An Overseas Lifetime Subscription is $190.

Deadlines for **FACTSHEET FIVE** are the 20th of January, March, May, July, September, and November.

A glossary of unusual terms used in FF is available for a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Back issues of **FACTSHEET FIVE** are available as follows:

#1,2,3,4,17.1	$1 each
#18,20-30	$2 each
#5-17	$3 each
#19	$10 each
Complete set	$75

Factsheet Five

Welcome to another issue of the zine of crosscurrents and crosspollination. Available by mail or in person from Mike Gunderloy, 6 Arizona Ave., Rensselaer, NY 12144-4502; phone (518)-479-3707 (24-hour answering machine, so call anytime); 300/1200 baud phone (518)-479-3879 (call anytime you have a computer handy). This is Pretzel Press publication #819 and is intended for direct Bulk Mailing to subscribers and good people across the country, around the world, and right into your face. Press run: 6700 copies. 31st issue, August 1989.

•••

This is where I explain the mailing code, on the far right of the first line of the address label.

A number indicates the last issue that you'll be getting. So if the number is "31", you need to Do Something if you want to keep getting FF. If the number is "31" and you don't even know why you got this, you probably have a Secret Admirer or something. Wanna subscribe?

There are a couple of things that can flank this number. If it's flanked with asterisks (*31*), you've paid for, and should be getting, first class postage. If it's flanked with carets (^31^), then this is a trade copy for which you paid first-class postage, after which you will revert to bulk-mail trade copies. If it's flanked with plus signs (+31+) you're getting a library subscription, including first-class postage, mailing envelopes, and the index.

"+" indicates that you've got nothing to worry about, because you're on the staph, you won a contest, or you just got lucky.

"A" means that you're getting this because of your artwork; either you sent me some or I want you to send me some, or both.

"B" means I'm trading for a book you sent.

"D" means that you're a distributor and so you get one copy for yourself as a freebie. I'm looking for new distributors, people who think they can sell at least ten copies and want to split the proceeds. Distributors get a 40% wholesale discount on all copies, and may sell on consignment. The number after the colon is how many copies I think I'm sending you. For more information on terms, send an SASE.

"L" means that you are a Lifetime Subscriber, and therefore exempt from nonsense. Lifetime subscribers get their issues sent First Class, with the index included. They also get free copies of FACTSHEET FIVE publications as they're issued — there will be another book coming later this year. Right now we're up to 58 lifetime subscribers, but there's always room for one more.

By the way, "lifetime" means either the magazine's lifetime or yours, whichever comes first. If you wish to buy a subscription which you may will to your heirs, contact me for a special rate.

"M" means you sent me music to review, or that you promised to send me music in the future. I usually allow 2 issues for a single, 3 for a tape, or 4 for an LP, but I screw up a bit, so let me know if you're owed more. (Or less).

"P" means you're a prisoner. FACTSHEET FIVE is always free to prisoners, but you need to keep in touch to keep getting it, otherwise I'll assume the copies aren't getting through to you. Wardens, you gotta pay like anyone else. Prisoners in mental institutions are extended the same privileges as those in allegedly-saner criminal institutions.

"R" means that this is a review/checking copy. It is for you to have to check the review I've done of your zine, or to be able to do a review of mine. I would like to see further copies of yours for future review — though of course you're not obligated to publish a review. I will continue to send you R copies as long as I stay on your mailing list, whether you write reviews or not. If you publish infrequently, I expect at least a note every six months to keep you on the mailing list.

"R?" means that I'd like you to consider sending copies of your zine in return for review/checking copies of mine.

"V" means you sent me a videotape to review. If you require the tape to be returned, one video is good for one issue in trade; if you leave it with me for the archives, one video is worth four issues.

Any of the above followed by a number (like "M/31") indicate the issue you'll have to renegotiate to keep getting FF. *You must get in touch with me at least once every two issues, regardless of the mailing code, to continue getting FF!* This applies to prisoners, artists, traders, everyone!

> Send me your zine, drop me a line, do SOMETHING so I know you're still out there. Actually, this doesn't apply to subscribers, only to people getting the zine for free. Clear?

Please take a moment to check your mailing label. If there are any mistakes, you have to let me know. They won't fix themselves. And you won't get any further warning if your subscription has run out.

And remember, FF is sent *bulk mail.* Not only does this make it slow (though, I hope, not *too* slow), but it means undeliverable copies go to that Big Post Office In The Sky. So PLEASE get your COAs to me promptly to avoid missing issues. I am not responsible for copies lost due to unannounced moves.

•••

Subscription rates are on the Staph page, but here they are again: $2.00 (cash [US or otherwise], check, money order, US stamps, or 5 IRCs) per issue for a regular sub. Those in the US can subscribe for $2.75 an issue and get FF delivered First Class instead of Bulk Mail. Library subscriptions are $3.50 per issue and include the index and first class mailing in protective envelopes. Those overseas can get Airmail delivery for $5 or 13 IRCs per issue. I'll also take the equivalent in any local paper currency. Any of these rates are good for up to 6 issues in advance, protecting you from price rises for a full year. Six-issue subscription rates are $11 for bulk mail, $15 for First Class, and $18 for Library subscriptions. Send money for more than 6 issues and I'll take it as a welcome donation. (Be sure to specify if you're sending money for a 1st class or library subscription!)

Unless you specify otherwise, all subscriptions start with the current issue.

Publishers and others who get their issues without paying may have them delivered first class for $1 per issue. This rate is only valid if you would have received that issue anyhow.

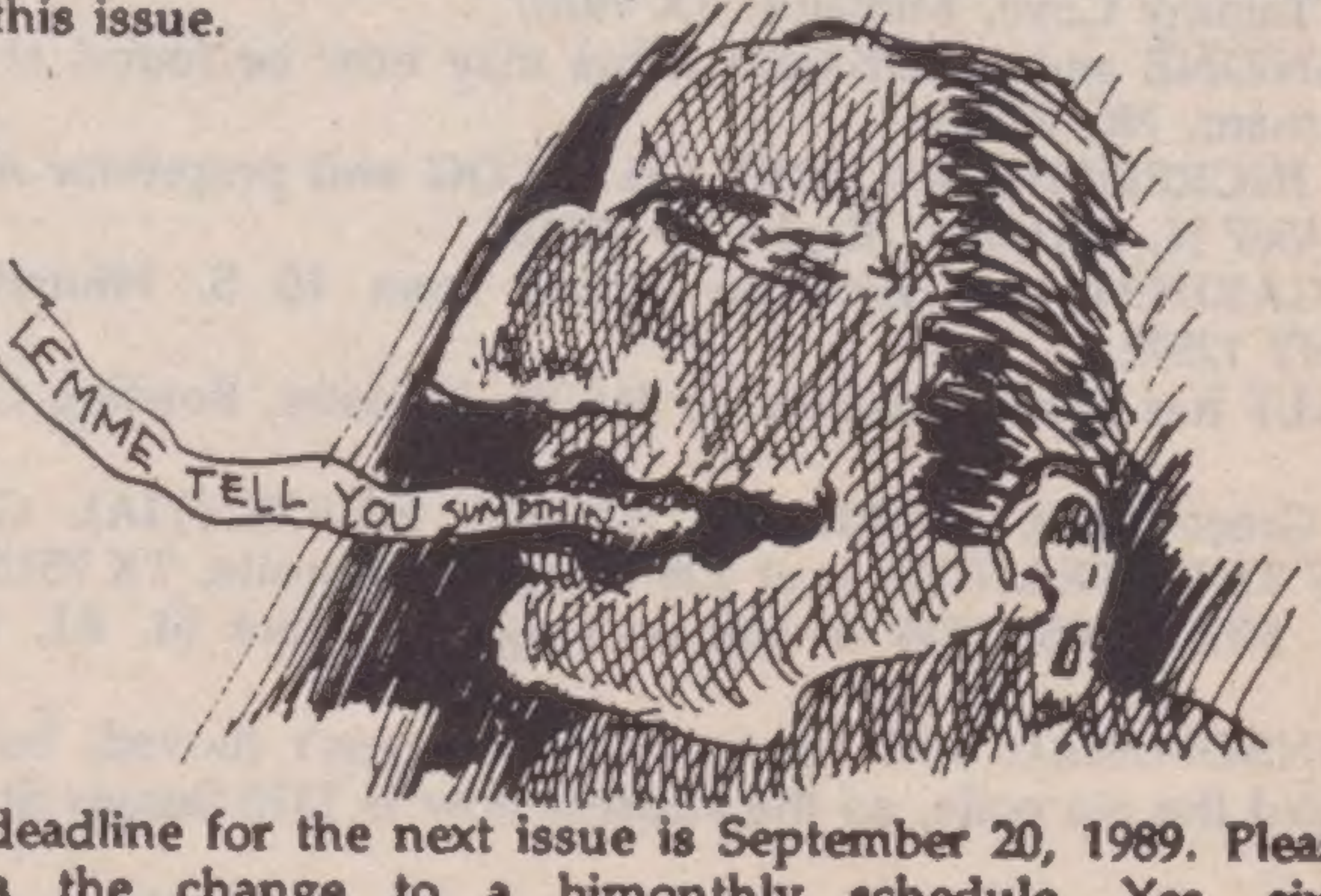
If anyone wants to buy a lifetime subscription (lifetime of the magazine, that is), I'll sell you one for $75. Or make me a reasonable offer of trade or barter. An overseas lifetime subscription is $190. Important note: This is the last issue when these rates will hold! After October 1, I will be going to a two-tier lifetime subscription. For $75, you'll still get all copies of the magazine as it comes out, mailed first class. But if you want the indices and FF books as well, the rate will be higher; I'm not yet sure how much, but probably about 50% more. People who have paid their money by October 1 will continue to get everything included in the lifetime fanatic rate.

Thanks to Rich Averitt, Doug Biggert, Stephen Donaldson, Dave Fischer, Adam Harris, A. Jordan, Bruce Mitchell, Larry Oberc, Laura Packer, M. Spoon, David Tremblay, Hal Weaver, Joe Workman and Donna Young for their generous donations towards publishing this issue. Special thanks to those who earmarked funds for copies to prisoners.

If you want FF sent to a friend, just send me their address and $2, or $2.75 if you're in a hurry. FF makes a great Christmas, birthday, or Bar Mitzvah present. I'll mark it as a gift from you unless you specify otherwise.

In lieu of sending stamps, money, fanzines, artwork, books, or music, you can get FF by sending me something to review that I haven't seen before, or by bartering dangerous drugs, canned goods, negotiable securities, wind-up sushi, ads for Japanese porno videos, or other interesting or amusing flotsam from our society.

Thanks to Miekal And & Liz Was, Herb Ashe, Bag of Water, E.J. Barnes, Jon Bekken, Doug Biggert, Bob Black, Tim Cridland, Paul DiFilippo, Tim Dimick, Chris Dodge, Jim Downard, DTD, Mike from D.U., EDSGC, Andrea 'Enthal, Charles Fabrizio, Alan Filipski, S. Fusion, Robert Gillie, Joy Hibbert, Hodad, Steven J. Hodge, Wayne Honath, John Javna, Matt Jasper, Tad Kepley, Lenore Kester, Joe Lane, Tim Madigan, Mike Manning, Mike Marinacci, Jim Martin, Luke McGuff, Fred Mills, Walt Noiseux, Hal Palmer, Kerry Pearson, Perry Peckham, Peppermint Subway, John Jefferson Poland, Stephen Popkin, Professor Pyramid, A. Rainbow, Bartlett Ridge, Dave Roskos, Joe Schwind, Michael Simmons, Thomas Slone, Carole Sobocinski, Stacey Sollfrey, Robert Winson Sycamore, Barbara Tan, Jim Testa, Tim Tonooka, Trevor, Elayne Wechsler, Richard Wilmarth, A.B. Windon, and Martin Morse Wooster for sending new and unknown zines for me to review in this issue.



•The deadline for the next issue is September 20, 1989. Please note that this marks the change to a bimonthly schedule. Yes, six issues of FACTSHEET a year from here on out. I don't quite believe it myself.

•Response to the Fanzine Exchange offer has been phenomenal this quarter. I'm about 6 weeks behind in sending out packages, so please be patient. PUBLISHERS: I could really use some more varied stuff to send out: back issues, flyers, stickers, posters, ads, whatever you want to get rid of will be gratefully accepted.

•The lifetime subscription rate is rising after October 1st; see above for details.

FACTSHEET FIVE
NEWS

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

•**ALTERNATIVE PRESS** is now at 1451 W. 112th St. Suite One, Cleveland, OH 44102.

•**AMERICAN FORUM** has moved again, this time to 154-158 Ludlow St., New York, NY 10002.

•**APA-RENGA** is changing editors to Terri Lee Grell, 755 Sightly Road, Toutle, WA 98649.

•**ARTPOLICE** have moved to PO Box 10265, Minneapolis, MN 55458-3265.

•**Audio Research Foundation** and David Woodard are at 2085 3rd Ave. N., Napa, CA 94558.

•**AWARE OF MY TONGUE** moved to PO Box 206202, Louisville, KY 40220.

•**BANANAFISH** is swimming around PO Box 11463, San Francisco, CA 94101-7463.

•**BAYOU LA ROSE** and Arthur Miller continue the struggle from 302 N. J St. #3, Tacoma, WA 98403.

•**BIG FIRE PROOF BOX** and Joel Kuszai have been put out to 130 University Dr., East Lansing, MI 48823.

•**CAFE ARMAGEDDON** and Wayne Alan Brenner have blown over to 2008 Oxford, Austin, TX 78704.

•**CAUSES** and Energy Unlimited are now in PO Box 493, Magdalena, NM 87285-0493.

•**COSMIC KALUDO** and Rikki Leeson are at 922 Maunakea St., Honolulu, HI 96817.

•**DAMP** and Kevin Kraynick have flowed over to Wayland Square Box 3034, Providence, RI 02906.

•**Ken DiMaggio** is back at 45 Euston St., New Britain, CT 06053.

•**DREAMS AND NIGHTMARES** and David Kopaska-Merkel sleepwalked over to 10 Walker Ave, Troy, NY 12180.

•**DRIPPINGWETTE GAZETTE** has flowed off to PO Box 127, Wickatunk, NJ 07765.

•**ENDLESS STRUGGLE** has moved again, to PO Box 69601, Stn.K, Vancouver, BC V5K 4W7, CANADA.

•**EYEBALLS IN THE SKY** and Tony Berry may be seen at 121 Cape Hill, Smethwick, Warley, West Midlands, B66 4SH, UK.

•**FANDOM** and Matt Kanaracus have moved back to 821 Pleasant St., Worcester, MA 01602.

•**Flatland Distribution** is now in PO Box 2420, Fort Bragg, CA 95437-2420.

•**FLOTSAMANDBEDLAM** and James Chionsini are now floating around 4603 Tammy Cove, Midland, TX 79707.

•**FREFANZINE** and its OE Seth Fehrs may now be found at 703 Ninth St. #235, Durham, NC 27705.

•**FRY'S INCREDIBLE INQUIRY CATALOG** and proprietor Al Fry have relocated to 4567 N. Park Ln., Eagle, ID 83616.

•**THE GARDEN** may now be picked from 10 S. Hinterlands Dr., Rhinebeck, NY 12572.

•**GESTALT** has gone crosstown to 516 W. Wooster, Bowling Green, OH 43402.

•**Scott Groce** (**THE DORK OF NIGHT, EXISTENTIAL GRINS, IN SEARCH OF THE STRANGE**) is at 229 Conger, Mesquite, TX 75150.

•**HOBO STEW REVIEW** is still cooking at 2 Eliot St. #1, Somerville, MA 02143.

•**THE INSOMNIAC** and Lynne Parcells haven't moved, but the Post Office changed the zip code, so the address now is 1310 Sussex St., Portage, MI 49002.

•**Tad Kepley** is at PO Box 224, Ulysses, KS 67880. He hasn't moved, but I got the box number wrong in the last issue.

•**LITTLE FREE PRESS** and Ernest Mann have moved yet again, this time to Rt. 2 Box 137, Cushing, MN 56443.

•**MALCONTENT** may be found at PO Box 703, Navesing, NJ 07752.

•**Richard Neubauer** has moved himself and his poetry to PO Box 191, Chatham, NY 12037.

•**THE NEWSLETTER OF TEMPORARY CULTURE** has moved to PO Box 8180, New York, NY 10116.

•**OIKOS** is now at 7 Melbourne Rd., Woodstock, Cape Town 7925, SOUTH AFRICA.

•**PAGAN APA** is now being run by Rita Prince Winston, 548-3 S. Venice Blvd., Venice, CA 90291-4282.

•**PEACE ACTIVIST REVIEW** and Charles Kraybill have relocated to 135 Corson Ave., Staten Island, NY 10301.

•**POPULAR REALITY** and David Crowbar have pried themselves into 1264 Creal Cres., Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

•**POST CARD SLUT** has sleazed on over to 260 38th St. #2, Oakland, CA 94611.

PUBLIC ENEMA and Ted House are now at 1509 Walker Ave. #3, Greensboro, NC 27403.

•**REBEL GRAPHICS** has moved to PO Box 1260, Youngstown, OH 44501.

•**RUBBER PUPPY** and Bill Bohrer have bounced into 2309-D Pruett, Austin, TX 78703-4349.

•**SAFE COMIX** is safe and sound at PO Box 1260, Youngstown, OH 44501.

•**SEX AND DRUGS** and A Non Prophet Organization are now carousing at 518 S. 5th St. #23, Philadelphia, PA 19147.

•**Sound of Pig Music** and Al Margollis may now be heard at PO Box 150022, Van Brunt Stn., Brooklyn, NY 11215.

•**SPROCKETS** and Martin Klug are at 7735 Attington Ln., St. Louis, MO 63119.

•**The Thelemic Arts Center** has relocated to General Delivery, Accord, NY 12404.

•**TROUT IN THE MILK** and Pete Strover are flopping around at Russian Hill, 10 Comiston Place, Morningside, Edinburgh EH10, UK.

•**Whitewall Tapes** amd Jim Clinefelter drove off to PO Box 7606, Akron, OH 44306.

•**WRITER'S BLOCK** will be found at PO Box 271, Spotswood, NJ 08884.

•**Yggdrasil Press** has migrated to PO Box 166031, Irving, TX 75016.

•**Yomkicker Productions** has hopped off to 9041 51st Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98115.

•**Mark Ziesing** has moved his book operation to PO Box 76, Shingletown, CA 96088.

Remember, since it costs me 30¢ just to get your COA if the Post Office tells me, and remailing your FF would cost me the price of another copy plus first class postage (they don't return whole issues, just covers), I'm not inclined to send you a replacement when this happens. If you want to keep your collection complete, send me your Change of Address as soon as you know it!

LOST ADDRESSES

Anybody got a current address for any of these?

•**ANTI-MATTER** (Trevor wants to send you your tape).

•Jeffrey Boozikee (Thomas from SOMA wants to send you your shirt).

•Michael Brennan sent me a note about his referral service for those looking for Grateful Dead live tapes. He didn't include his address, which makes passing this information on sort of useless.

•**FREE THE FIVE BILLION**

•**HOLY TITCLAMPS**

•Last Crack, a band from Madison who sent me a demo tape with absolutely no return address information.

•Lotus (from **PROTECTOR'S DIARY**)

DEAD ZINES

All of the following have ceased publication in the last few months:

•**THE ARIZONA ATHEIST** (killed by legal action taken by Madalyn Murray O'Hair. The action appears without basis in facts and her motives are completely inscrutable.)

•**BOYSVILLE USE**

•**DENSITY**

•**DER GOLEM**

•**GENTLE WILLOW**

•**HI-TECH TERROR**

•**I COVER THE WAR**

•**INNER VOICE**

•**KURLUK**

•**LONELY PLANET UPDATE**
•**THE MOORISH SCIENCE MONITOR**
•**THE PATH** (though **THE PATH REVIEW** will continue)
•**REACCIONES**

•**UNCLE FESTER** (Back issue packages including stickers are still available at $3 for 4 issues from Festering Publications, 2235 France Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55416).

•**YIPES!** is taking at least six months off while the editor goes fishing in Alaska.

ERRATA

It apparently was not a good issue for accuracy...

•Last time I had **CATHEDRAL OF INSANITY** in New York. They're really in California. Sorry about that.

•Last issue's review of **BONESAUCE** credited a poem to L. Cramer. This should have been credited to Les Cammer. Our mistake. Sorry.

•This isn't really an error, just some information that arrived a bit too late for the last issue: sample copies of **DECALCOMANIA** should be ordered from Doug "Leo" Hanbury, 1521-68th St., Des Moines, IA 50311; the price has gone up to $1.50 (US) or $2 (Canada).

•While I usually manage to indicate when publishers hew to distasteful ideologies, I'm not always so astute when it comes to music. For the record, then, Agnostic Front and Cro-Mags (both of whom had records reviewed last issue) have dabbled in neo-Nazi ideologies in the past and still have links to the far right.

•**DEATH BOX** is $1, not free as it was listed in #30.

•**GHOSTS & SCHOLARS** retails for $4, not $3 as I listed last time.

•The price of the "Golden Cage of Radio Tapes" (PO Box 19427, Minneapolis, MN 55419) is $8 each or $15 for the set of two.

•**GENII** is at PO Box 36068, Los Angeles, CA 90036; I got the box number wrong last time.

•**HUG THE EARTH** is $5, not $4 as it was listed in #30.

•The correct address for the band Infamous Menagerie is PO Box 95435, Seattle, WA 98145-2435. Try again if your mail was returned.

•The zine that was listed as **HUTH COMIX** should have been listed under its proper title of **SOX, DREGS AND ROCKIN' CHAIRS #2**.

•**PLAIN BROWN WRAPPER** is in Yellow Springs, not Antioch, so if you had mail bounce try again.

•**SINGIN' DOSE ANTI PSYCHOTIC BLUES** is the right name of the thing I listed in the last issue as **FRANK'S ZINE** .

•**SOMA** is at Georgia Tech PO Box 35526, Atlanta, GA 30332. If you had mail to them returned, try again, since I got this wrong last time.

•**SPOREPRINT** and The Fane are to be reached at Box 1295, Stn. E, Victoria, BC, V8W 2W3, CANADA — this is the third or fourth time I have confused that city with Vancouver. Someone send me a map...

•**STEEL JUSTICE** is available from Cleve Murphy, 3 1/2 E. Main St., Richmond, WV 26261, and not from Frank Lloyd as I mistakenly stated last issue.

•**VIEW FROM THE LEDGE** is only available to people who send in strange news clippings, though sample copies may be had for a 25¢ stamp.

T-SHIRTS

Yes, they're still coming. This time around, we've the following additions to my wardrobe. Remember, I love to advertise for the lunatic fringe, and the preferred size is Medium or Large.

•What I presume is the official **BAND OF SUSANS** shirt comes from Trace Elements Records ($8 plus $1 postage from 172 E. 4th St. #11D, New York, NY 10009). It features a color rendition of their "Hope Against Hope" album cover, surrounded by wistful looking 50's-style young women, captioned "One Manhattan fan club met every Saturday to celebrate their undying love". Above and below it has the band and album name. Quite original and striking.

•**BEAR** (2215R Market St. #148, San Francisco, CA 94114) is of course the magazine for men who like other hairy men. Their t-shirt, though, is pretty discreet, featuring a cartoon drawing by H. Tuttle of a large bearded dude with a cap and a cup of coffee, and the words "BEAR: The Magazine" across the front. They come in black and gray, all sizes up to XXL, for $10.

•**THE BLOTTER** has a new shirt out in white, featuring a red and black rendition of the "sickening Blotterland mobile home" on the front (your friends will find it to be an enigmatic trailer, and may mistake the zine name for an acid reference) and a strange blue clown face on the back. The shirts come in XL only and are $10 each from Roy Tompkins, PO Box 16022, Austin, TX 78761. The **BLOTTER** folks say they've set up a regular silkscreening factory on the back porch and they're willing to do work including original art and designs for the underground community at reasonable rates.

•**CHINA SUPPORT** is the theme of a t-shirt which Freddie Baer is making available to aid the Chinese Student group at UC-Berkeley, who of course were very active in getting information into that country during the uprising in Beijing. The shirt features images of struggle and struggle crushed, together with a passage from the Radio Beijing English Service mourning the slaughter of the thousands of civilians. The shirt is available for $6 plus $1.50 shipping from Freddie c/o Mystopia, PO Box 410151, San Francisco, CA 94141-0151, with all monies over actual cost of the shirt being donated to the student group.

•**EGG** (Chris Ballew, 3 Wesley Park #4, Somerville, MA 02143) has a completely unauthorized Budweiser shirt available, with a crude drawing of Spuds going after one of his human groupies, doggie fashion. $5 while they remain unprosecuted, or they'll swap.

•**Gryphon Stringed Instruments** (211 Lambert Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94306) sells "Greetings from BANJO HELL" shirts that originate with Bart Reiter Banjos in East Lansing. They come in pastel colors (mint, lilac and pink in stock — large and XL only) and feature a classic-looking woodcut of lost souls being tortured in hell, in one case by a devil playing a banjo. $12 postpaid.

•**OUTHOUSE** ($6 from Bill Rich, Fresh Sounds, PO Box 36, Lawrence, KS 66044) is a gig space in Lawrence aimed at the grottier parts of the youth culture. The shirt shows a skull with a cross jammed into it, emblazoned "The Outhouse, Lawrence, KS". Pretty gory. May be in short supply.

•**RATS OF UNUSUAL SIZE** is a band recording on the new Vital Records label. It's also a lovely red shirt, with a suitably deranged city-destorying illustration from their album "Ratzilla". To inquire about availability, write them at 263 E. 10th St., New York, NY 10009.

•**RE/SHIRTS** (126 Ninth Ave., San Francisco, CA 94118) is the t-shirt arm of **RE/SEARCH** magazine. I haven't seen their products yet, but they say they're "incredibly strange" and include Burroughs, SRL, and "Mr. Death".

•You can still get on Freddie Baer's private list by joining the **T-Shirt of the Month Club**. $22.50 will get you three months worth of limited-edition shirts as a test run, after which you'll probably rob a sporting goods store to join for a full year. Write to Freddie at c/o Mystopia, PO Box 410151, San Francisco, CA 94141-0151. In May the topic was a print by J.C. Oronco, with an ugly vision of a mob of humanity. June brought us a very curious sex and death collage, while July has a classic Machine in the Garden image. (As of early July Freddie reports that there may be no spaces in the club left, so perhaps you should write to enquire before sending money).

•**The Ugly Shirt Service** is the latest brainchild of Tad Kepley (PO Box 224, Ulysses, KS 67880). "For five bucks postpaid I'll find the ugliest fucking shirt imaginable and mail it to you...just give size desired and we're on our way." The sample he sent me is certainly ugly, a polyester disaster that I don't think I'd care to be caught wearing.

•**Venom Press** (PO Box 2863, Denton, TX 76202) has t-shirts featuring Bufo alvarius, the Psychedelic Toad of the Sonoran Desert. They feature a picture of the toad surrounded by those words, and are available on red, yellow, blue or green in sizes from M to XL for $10 postpaid. I like 'em — a nice antidote to the "Just Say No" mania.

•**Tom Watkins** (PO Box 1159, Wilmington, DE 19899-1159) sent me a beautiful selection of arty shirts, half a dozen in all — and they're fantastic enough that he doesn't need to worry about being kicked off my mailing list for years to come. For $20 he'll sell you a full-color, soft-toned, signed and numbered shirt — the two he sent me are an angular "Waitresses from Outer Space" and a high-tech chrome-and-leather look "Blind Date", both stunning. These two were made by color photocopy transfers, while silkscreened ones are only $13. The latter includes a rather morbid "Wilmington Mass Murderers" electric chair (black on white), a collection of angular fish in a stylized sea (pink on black), a modernistic Cerebus (2 colors on black — also available in an enameled pin for $5), a 4-color carp on black, and a skeletal dude in a castle basement with a boombox on his shoulder (white on black). Shipping is $1 per shirt, or free if you order 3 or more. The signed prints are 50/50, the rest all cotton, and they come in small through XL sizes.

ROLE-PLAYING GAMES:

•**TRANSDIMENSIONAL TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES** ($11.95 from Palladium Books, 5926 Lonyo, Detroit, MI 48210): The latest in a series of books for a roleplaying game based on the TMNT comic books. Written by Erick Wujcik, this one expands things about as far as they can go: into the past, the future, and alternate worlds without end.

The nice thing about this is that it's made to work with all of Palladium's games, so if your characters from **BEYOND THE SUPERNATURAL** get pushed into the past by some sort of ghost, or your **SUPERHEROES UNLIMITED** folks have to confront a menace from the future, the rules for dealing with this are in one place.

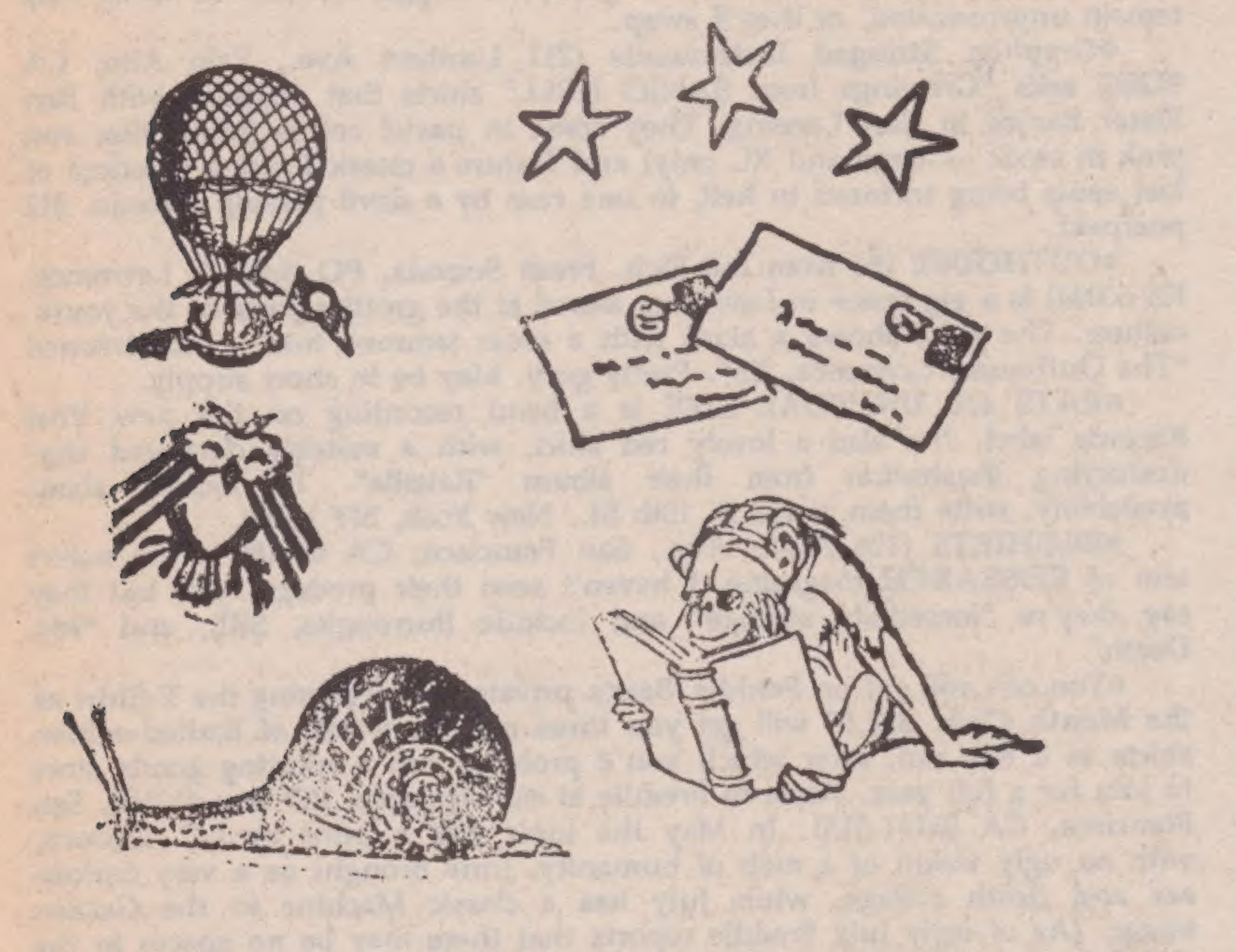
Besides some new types of characters (ever wanted to play a mutant dinosaur?), there are a selection of both spells and technology for travelling in time and taking care of various ancillary functions like determining your location. Erick even supplies a multi-dimensional helix theory of time to put some constraints on when folks can go to.

If I was still running RPGs, I suspect I would incorporate much of this book into my world. I might even switch entirely over to the Palladium system. (112pp. tpb)

ARTIFACTS

•**Art in an Egg** (3 stamps from Krouse, RD #2 Box 166, New Castle, PA 16101): Just what the name says. This is a blown chicken egg, decorated with magic marker, and with a few small bits of xerographic art rolled up and stuck inside. This is an archivist's nightmare, since there is no way to examine the art without breaking the egg. Thus the FF archives now have an imperfect copy of this item.

•**Blue Tulip Impressions** (730 W. 11th St., Waterloo, IA 50702) sent me a selection of rubber stamps, mounted an unmounted, to examine. I particularly like the monkey with the book, although the impressionistic mail and the snail are nice too. Here's a few samples of their work:



Terry Owen, who runs Blue Tulip, likes to see their stamps used in self-published works, unlike some larger and less friendly companies.

•**Castle Rising** (PO Box 3127, Morgantown, WV 26505) sent me a wide selection of their stick incense. Now, this is sort of tough to review: smells are probably even harder to describe than sounds. Worse yet, allergies around this place dictate that incense-burning be kept to a minimum. However, a little cautious experimentation in the porch gives me some impressions. First, these sticks are well made; they showed no tendency to crumble even after being shipped here, they light easily, and they burn well. One stick seems to be about 10 minutes worth, more or less. "Sweet Mint" and "Vanilla" were very smoky and fast-burning, the most impressive of the ones I tried. "Mist" was surprisingly refreshing; if I were to be into incense, I suspect it would become a favorite. "Hot Cinnamon" was nice and nostalgic, living up to its name. "Cherry Blossom" was the only one I tried that my nose wouldn't make the connection with the name.

Castle Rising's special 18-page incense catalog is only $3, or you can get a sampler of 21 stick incenses for $13. They offer a wide variety of things for special purposes, including such fragrances as "Blue Fox" and "Summerland".

If anyone thinks they can do a better job of reviewing incense, give me a call — I have a good many samples left.

•**farthingale** ($1 from Geof Huth, 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305): A "severlation" poem by Karl Kempton, executed in multiple colored markers on plexiglass. The presentation adds something to the simple words here, giving an icon to be contemplated, and somehow seeming more real than the same effort would on a piece of paper.

•**Home Rolled Cigarettes on Bible Paper** (50¢ & a stamp from Krouse, RD #2 Box 166, New Castle, PA 16101): Another self-explanatory item. These come in a decorated box (orignally Marlboro, at least for the ones we got), and are designed, I guess, to offend fundamentalists. I have no opinion of the quality of the tobacco, being a nonsmoker myself.

•**the stanes** ($5.75 from Geof Huth, 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305): A set of three "pwoermds" (poem/words) by Geof, presented on smooth stones and contained in a small suede pouch. This is concrete poetry at its concretest, and the tactile sense does make for a more rounded experience. Take "thingk", for example; it's much easier to think about the meaning of this thing when it is presented literally on a thing for one to think about.

•**the woords** ($5.75 from Geof Huth, 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305): Another batch of pwoermds, these presented on pieces of bark and enclosed in a petri dish, along with some small pine cones and pine needles. In some ways this is the opposite experience from the stanes (above); language's fragility, rather than its solidity, becomes the focus, as too-rough handling would result in there being no language at all. The pieces themselves have a generally woodsy connotation: "boock" is one of the shorter pieces — book, bark, and probably other things I'm missing are swirled up in this word.

SOFTWARE

•I will review IBM-PC compatible software personally, and have reviewers for MacIntosh, Apple II, Atari ST and Commodore 64 software, so if you know of any interesting programs for these machines, please put them in touch with FF.

•**By The Numbers** ($3 from R.K. West Consulting, PO Box 8059, Mission Hills, CA 91346): More shareware from the folks behind the Creativity package reviewed last issue. That $3 will get you an evaluation copy; $29 is the registration fee for the full version. By The Numbers is a numerology program, evaluating your personality and fortune based on your name and birthdate. It produces about a 4-page printout on things like the influence of your family name (mine is billed as "quite eccentric to outsiders") and your personal qualities of expression and desire, as well as lucky numbers and colors. The system used is the "Pythagorean" one of giving the alphabet values from 1 to 9 and adding down to single digits — a standard way of doing such things. The program will also evaluate single words and phrases; "SubGenius" comes out as "artistic, philanthropic, idealistic" while "FACTSHEET FIVE" reduces to "optimistic, youthful, sociable, energetic". This sort of thing can be fun to play with in the same was as astrology, and has (as far as I can tell) about the same validity.

•**R.K.** West consulting also has a demo disk featuring bits of all their programs: By the Numbers, Fortune Teller (dice & card readings), the Creativity Package (reviewed in FF30), a Mayan Calendar, Poetry Generator (reviewed in FF29), a Pen name generator, Crystal Ball (a combination of supermarket tabloid psychic predictions and the Magic 8-ball), Geomancy, Cliche Finder, and Maillist. Send $3 for a copy to PO Box 8059, Mission Hills, CA 91346.

•**LogFlash** ($30 from the Logical Language Group, 2904 Beau Ln., Fairfax, VA 22031): A product of the folks who are developing and publicizing Lojban, a new synthetic language (the heir to Loglan). This is a program to teach you the vocabulary of a new language, based on a carefully planned flashcard drill. New words are introduced in each lesson, then reviewed in following lessons — more so if you missed them when they came up the last time. Eventually, you'll know them. The method really works; using the program for a few weeks on a daily basis, I was able to build up a several hundred word Lojban vocabulary quite painlessly. The program disk comes with the vocabulary for Loglan included, but the same software could be used to learn any language, or indeed any paired set of words — even something like the symbols for the chemical elements would be amenable to this way of learning. $30 for the IBM-PC version, $20 for the Mac version.

IMPORTANT EVENTS

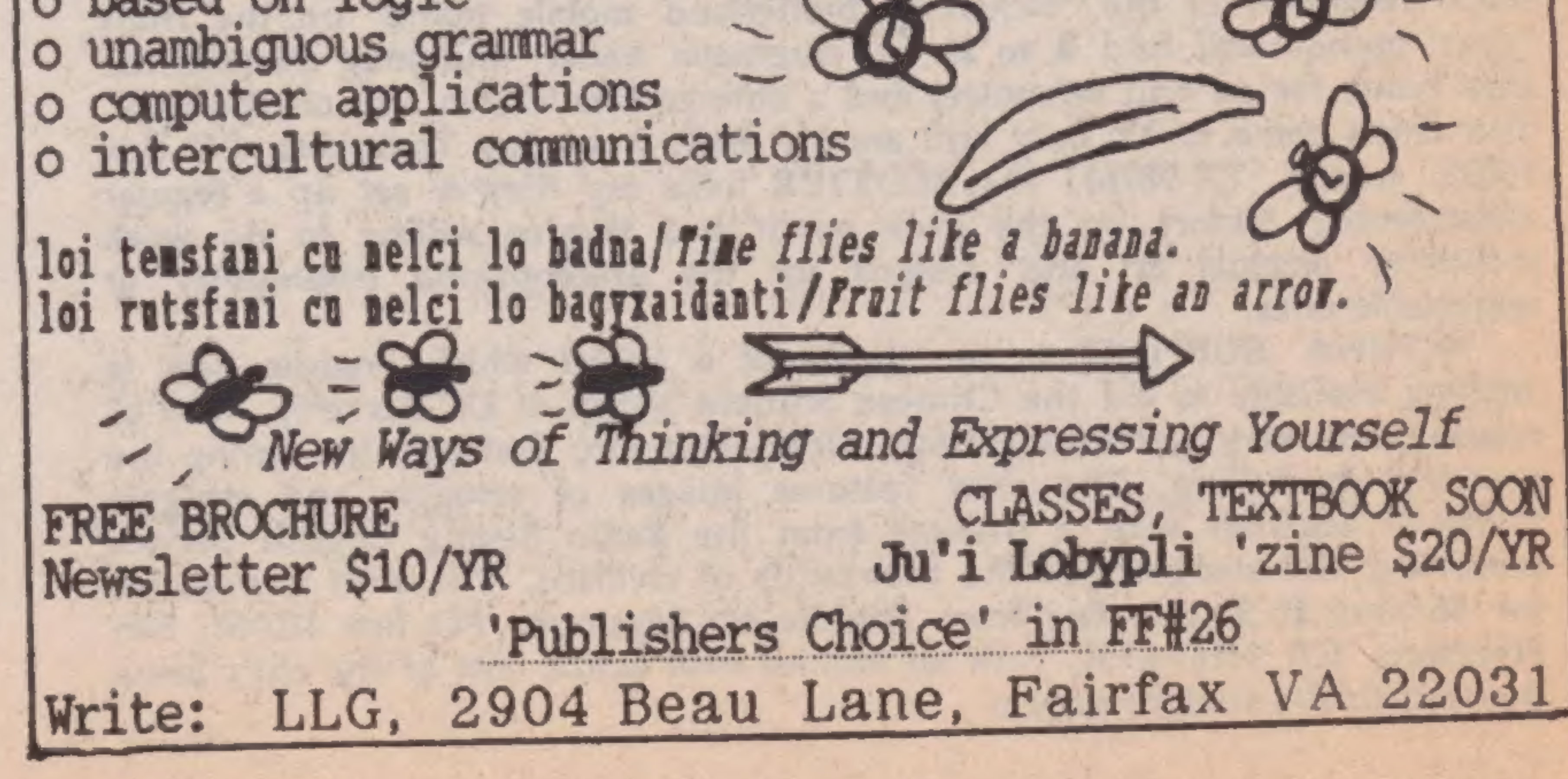
•**The 8th Assembly of the Fourth World** will be held August 9-13 in Toronto. Registration for this alternative economy event, looking at "human scale voluntary local action", is via the School of Living, 3030 Sleepy Hollow Road, Falls Church, VA 22042.

•**The 1989 Festival of the Swamps** will be held August 24th through 27th in Madison, Wisconsin. This is an annual performance, mail, sound, xerographic and other alternative arts event which has been growing fast. Thursday will be the Experimental Underground Media Exhibition, Friday the day for Individual Performances, and Saturday will see the Parade/Group Improv Collaborative Noisy Happening. For more information write Xexoxial Endarchy, 1341 Williamson St., Madison, WI 53703, or call (608)-258-1305.

•**The National Bisexual Conference** will be held in Coventry (that's in England, for those whose geography is a bit rusty) some time this September. For more details, send 2 IRCs to Joy Hibbert, 11 Rutland Street, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs., ST1 5JG, ENGLAND.

•**Europe Against the Current** is an international "Festival about alternative, independent radical informationcarriers", including graphic artists, publishers, audio and video producers. For more information contact Foundation Europe Against the Current, Erik Nieuwendijk/Eef Vermeij, Jodenbreestraat 24, 1011 NK Amsterdam, NETHERLANDS, or if you have a computer, call their BBS at (0)10-4365200.

•**The National UFO & New Age Conference**, chaired by the elusive publisher Jim Moseley, will be held in Phoenix from September 15 through 17. Registration is $50; write to PO Box 753, New Brunswick, NJ 08903 or call 602-951-3431 for more details.



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•**The Himalayan Institute's 1989 Himalayan Excursion**, a study and travel program with Swami Rama, will be held September 19 through October 16. For more details contact Ms. Dale Colton, c/o Himalayan Excursions, RR1, Box 400, Honesdale, PA 18431.

•**Mother Earth** is the theme of the Second International Day of Peace Art Exhibit, September 19 through October 20. For details on submitting work, contact (before September 15). Performing & Fine Artists for World Peace, PO Box 261, Lihue, HI 96766.

•**Grassroots Convention '89** is for people involved in a grassroots approach to dealing with hazardous waste or solid waste in general. It's October 7-8 in Northern Virginia (final site not yet set). For more info, write CCHW, Convention '89, PO Box 926, Arlington, VA 22216 or call (703)-276-7070).

•**The Third Annual Dressing For Pleasure Gala** is being held October 20-22 in New York City. This is for folks who are into fashions made from leather, latex, and vinyl, outrageous high heels, corsets, and the like. A 3-day ticket will run you $200. For more information write to Constance Enterprises, PO Box 43079, Upper Montclair, NJ 07043 and enclose an SASE.

•**Free Media, Free Minds IV** is the national conference of the Free Press Association, being held in New York City October 27-29. For more information, call (614)-236-1908.

•**The New York Collectable Paperback Expo** is taking place on November 4th at the Days Inn in New York City. Guests of honor are Michael Avallone and Mitchell Hooks, and a heap of dealers are expected. For more information contact Gryphon Publications, PO Box 209, Brooklyn, NY 11228; (718)-745-1811 [6 to 10 PM EST only].

•**Fortfest '89** is a gathering of Forteans and other researchers of the anomalous, being held November 11-12 in McLean, VA. Details from International Fortean Organization, PO Box 367, Arlington, VA 22210.

•**The Second Annual North Brooklyn Small Press Convention** is being held at the Minor Injury Gallery (1073 Manhattan Ave, Bronx, NY 11222) On Saturday, November 18, 1989 from 12PM to 9PM. This year's convention is being organized by Scott Cunningham, and will include an exhibition of comic and graphic work from zinedom and beyond. For information or to submit zines, video zines, or original comics for display, contact Scott at 26 St. Marks Place #4RE, New York, NY 10003. Oh yeah, one more thing — I'll be speaking at this event, formally and informally.

•**The Earth Concert** will be December 31st of this year, and is planned to be a 12-hour live telethon and concert from around the globe which "will offer the world an opportunity to unite in a spirit of peace and global cooperation and consider what we can do to save our planet from environmental devastation." For more information send 3 IRCs to Earth Concert, Anse St-Jean, Quebec, CANADA G0V 1J0.

•**The International Primate Protection League** is planning an annual members' meeting, with the first one to be held March 23-25, 1990. For more information, contact the IPPL at PO Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484.

•**CORFLU 7** is the convention for science fiction fanzine fans, being held in New York City on May 4-6, 1990. Registration is $35 for an attending membership or $5 for a supporting membership, from Lise Eisenberg, 99 Joralemon St. #6D, Brooklyn, NY 11201, who is also the person to write for more information. I'll be there.

•The 1990 **Anarchist gathering** has not, as of this writing, been planned. However, a proposal for decentralizing it and letting many small gatherings bloom has been circulated. For a copy, send an SASE to Trevor, PO Box 23061, Knoxville, TN 37933-1061.

•A national **Lesbian Conference** is in the early planning stages, with the event itself to take place in 1991 or perhaps 1990. I don't have more details as of press time but if you keep an eye on publications like GAY COMMUNITY NEWS I' sure they'll be announced.

MAIL ART:

•**The A.1 Waste Paper Company** (71, Lambeth Walk, London SE 11, ENGLAND) is sponsoring a continuing Rubber Stamp Exchange — send them one you're tired of, and they'll send you one in return.

•**Aardvark Farms** (Ralf Schulze, PO Box 785, Glenham, NY 12527) is hosting a show with the theme "Psychedelic Experience". Deadline is October 2, 1989, nay size black & white works may be submitted, and participants will receive a booklet of all contributions.

•**Blur** (Shaun Robert, Indespair, 16 Climsland Road, Paignton, Torbay, Devon, TQ4 5LX, ENGLAND) is looking for materials for a variety of projects, with subjects including sex, advertising, America, Threat, whale sounds, subconscious doodles, and more. Send an IRC for more info.

•**Brain Cell** is the continuing mail art project of Ryosuke Cohen (3-76-I-A-613 Yagumokitacho, Moriguchi-City, Osaka 570, JAPAN). Each issue is a sheet of A3-sized paper liberally covered with multi-colored stickers and rubber stampings. They make lovely wall hangings. To get into the act, send your own rubber stamp or 150 stickers or seals. Issues come out every 8-10 days; #129 is the most recent I received.

•**Dadata** (PO Box 33, Stillwater, PA 17878) might object to being called a mail art project, since the political content of Ed Lawrence's mini-posters is so apparent. Still, the burst of graphics and short text style — suited for making a point in this age of sound bites — is distinctly similar to much mail art. Send an SASE to have your preconceptions challenged.

•**Envelope O'Fun** (Free "in trade for zines, comix, & such" from Graham Trievel, Box 481, Rt. 113, Lionville, PA 19353) comes filled with cards, stickers, collages, fortune cookie fortunes, and other stuff. Graham is also looking for cereal premiums from the 1960s through the 1980s, and will swap these — send him one & he'll send you a different one. The same exchange deal also applies to rubber stamps. And in his latest letter, he says "I am trying to acquire a large amount of (empty) sugar sweetened cereal boxes. If anyone will send me their empty boxes, I will pay them 25¢ each plus postage."

•**Er Atelier** (Bedrich Stigler, Herbenova 1, 690 03 Breclav, CZECHOSLOVAKIA) is organizing a mailart exhibit of "autoportraits" — free format and technique, deadline August 31, 1989.

•**FaGaGaGa's** latest postcard is "Wrap Your Meat or Beat It", a bit of Anti-AIDS mail art. For samples get in touch at PO Box 1382, Youngstown, OH 44501. FaGaGaGa is open to swapping art and ideas, and writes that a "School of Cool" will be opening soon.

•**Fucci** (HC68, Box 2150, Prineville, OR 97754) sent me a large lovely multiple-colored print featuring some enigmatic collage figures and an unlikely fish. I like it, though there's no details on getting one of your own.

•**Honoriartist** (906 Post Oak, Austin, TX 78704) is running a mailart show, with the theme of "Kissing", and a deadline of February 1990. Documentation to all participants.

•**Miroslav Janousek jr.** (Leninova 673, Prahag 160 00, CZECHOSLOVAKIA — a new address, by the way) has announced "The Bat & Your Head" as the theme for a mail art show. Deadline is December 31, and the maximum size is 10.5 x 15 (cm, I presume).

•**Malok** (PO Box 41, Waukau, WI 54980) keeps a steady stream of stickers, tapes, photos, collages and whatnot coming into the FF offices.

•**Alexandra S. McGlynn** (25 Hawarden Grove, Herne Hill, London SE24 9DQ, ENGLAND) sent me ONE OF ALEXANDRA'S BOOKS. This is an "artist's book", basically a one-off hand-bound book about minicomic size. It's bound with heavy ribbon and features photographs of the Millenium Mills, a set of buildings waiting to be demolished.

•**Francoise Duvivier** of METRO RIQUET (18, Allee des Orgues de Flandre, 75019 Paris, FRANCE) sent me a nice little portfolio of rather morbid art. It comes in a black cover with skull stamps. Inside, carefully tied between tracing paper sheets, are half a dozen xerographic collages, featuring lots of skeletal body parts as well as various images of people and civilization in despair.

•**NOTHOWNOW** (Torquil Anderson, 51 Leamington Terrace, Edinburgh EH10 4JS, SCOTLAND) is asking for work in any technique on the theme "Calling All Beard Lovers". A sample of hair will be sent to all participants. No deadline.

•**SALON** (305 W. Magnolia #386, Ft. Collins, CO 80521) is sponsoring a show on "Postcards & Souvenirs from Non-existent Places". Deadline is September 15, 1989, and documentation will be provided.

•**Sandrew** (PO Box 45036, Kansas City, MO 64111) simply wants to be listed "for Mail Art Exchange".

•**Heath Sir Real** (612 West St. #A, Winston-Salem, NC 27101) sent me a piece titled "mail art by the numbers". It's a three-dimensional collage, including bits of foam rubber, cotton swabs, old Viewmaster slides, and lots of paint and wire. Definitely off the beaten path.

•**Skeleton Quarterly/Raininghouse Press** is an outfit in Santa Cruz, into a number of arty projects. The problem is that somehow their address got mixed up with Carl Bettis's address on a mailart chain letter, and he's been getting mail meant for them. So if you have a Kansas City address for SQ, it's wrong, and you should write them instead at PO Box 1452, Santa Cruz, CA 95061.

•**Michael Voodoo** (PO Box 12461, Lake Park, FL 33403) is back in action, bombarding me with the occasional envelope of photocopied artworks. He goes in for a lot of disturbing sexual imagery.

OTHER NEWS:

•**AK Distribution** (Ramsey Kanaan, 3 Balmoral Pl., Stirling, FK8 2RD, SCOTLAND) is a mail order distributor that carries radical literature from sex to bombs to vegan cooking to anarchy. They want to hear from publishers who are interested in further distribution, or will send you their forthcoming price list for one IRC.

•**ALTERNATIVE PRESS** (1451 W. 112th St. #1, Cleveland, OH 44102) is looking for stringers around the country to help with news reports from different cities for their large-format music magazine, If you're interested, get in touch with Joe Banks, Editor, at the above address. Also, they're starting a zine review section, and are interested in seeing new things for it.

•I got hold of some crap from the **Aryan Nations** and **Church of Jesus Christ Christian** (both at PO Box 362, Hayden lake, ID 83835). Their latest salvo is a pamphlet titled "United States Government (ZOG) TREASON Against Our American Soldiers in Korea and Vietnam", denouncing our cooperation with the Jewish Zionist Satanist Communist United Nations. These folks are sick puppies, calling for veterans to overthrow the government, and I wouldn't send them any cash. Write them a raving letter and tell 'em you're poor because you bought guns to fight off the lower races if you want to get on their freebie list. And don't mention my name.

•**Babushkin** is, as his press release says, back, this time with half a dozen postcards featuring bizarre special interest groups. These range from the American League of Lousy Neighbors and the Committee for the Proper Use of Senseless Violence to the American Mediocrity Association. $3.50 will get you all six, or you can send $1 for a sample to 30 Old Whitfield Rd., Accord, NY 12404.

•**Ace Backwords** (1630 University Ave. #26, Berkeley, CA 94703) is still making his "Twisted Image" comics and cartoons available to any publisher who sends an SASE.

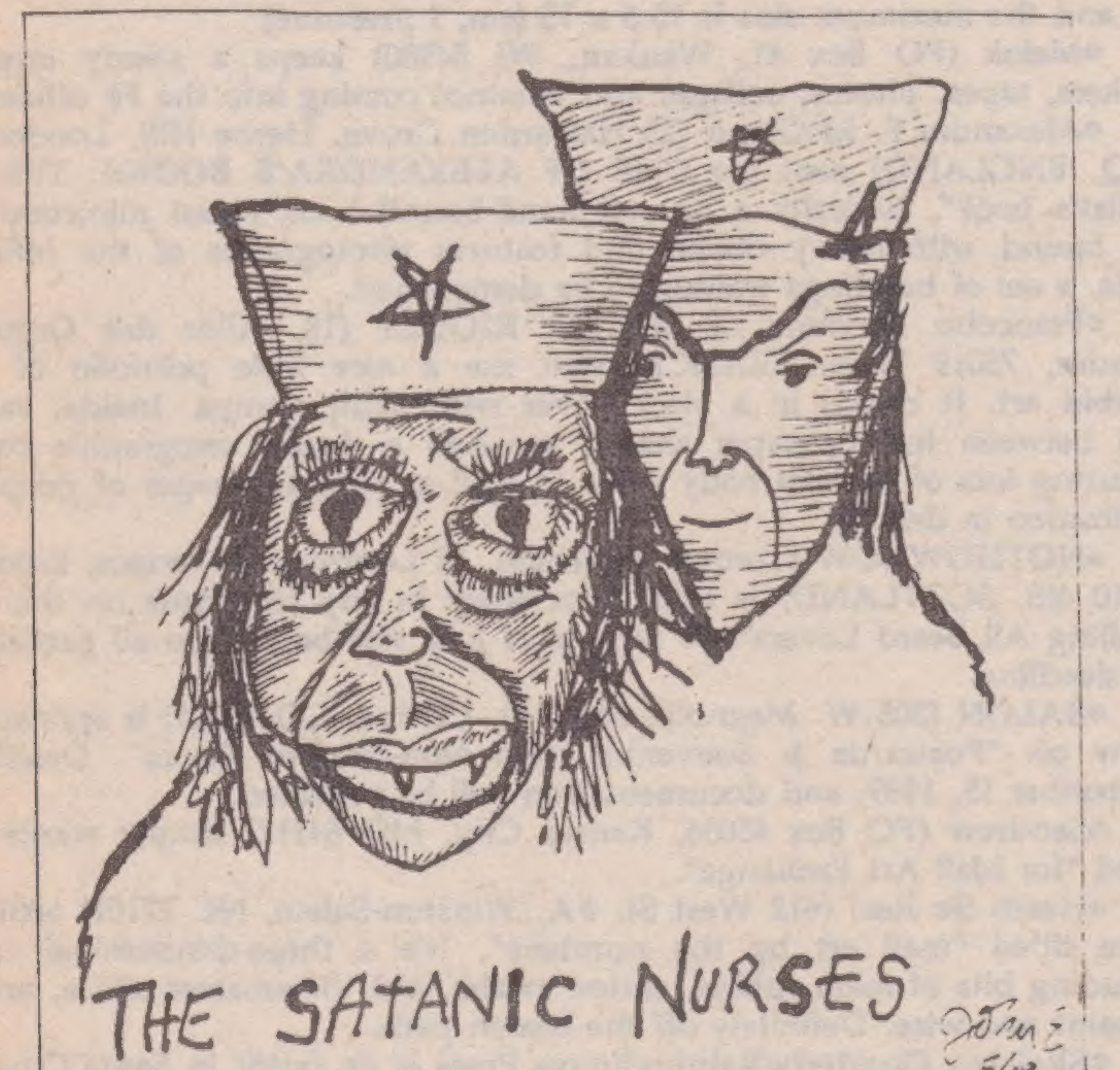
•**BAD HAIRCUT** (PO Box 6631, Kent, WA 98064) is out with some socially conscious postcards, with short bits of poetry about Ireland, the free press, South Africa, and so on. 4 for $1.

•**Bangaway Productions** (1460 Cornell Rd., Atlanta, GA 30306) is looking for essays, photos, drawings, diatribes, sermons and other material on the subject of pornography. They plan to compile these into a book for release later this year.

•**BLOTTER** has stickers available for 50¢, on dayglo orange and featuring "Harvey the Hillbilly Bastard" and some punkoid kid. Get 'em from Roy Tompkins, PO Box 16022, Austin, TX 78761.

•**Blue Tulip Impressions** (730 W. 11th St., Waterloo, IA 50702) has a new catalog of their rubber stamps and eraser carvings available. The prices range from 40¢ to $8, and subjects include Russian alphabets, flowers, cacti, rat poison, and hearts. Try 45¢ postage for a copy.

•**Box Dog Enterprises** (PO Box 9609, Seattle, WA 98109) sent me their 1990 catalog, a few months ahead of schedule. It features their various underground music, literary, and artistic zines, including **ATTACK, FEMINIST BASEBALL, TERMINAL REPORT,** and **AVANT GARDE WORLD.** 25¢ postage should land a copy.



•**Wayne Branch** (11842 N 30th Pl., Phoenix, AZ 85028) is still turning out limited-edition block prints with a bizarre chunky look to them.

•**Laurie Cabot**, the "Official Witch" of Salem, is offering "Witchcraft as a Science" workshops at prices starting at $350 for a full weekend intensive course. For more information drop a line to Crow Haven Corner, 125 Essex St., Salem, MA 01970.

•**Card Attack** (PO Box 10264, Chicago, IL 60610-0264) is J.A. Reid's outlet for bizarre humorous postcards. These include things like "Face Techtonics", Terrier Water, Down-scale desserts (featuring Pigeon Pops) and other silliness. Maybe an SASE for a catalog.

•**Doug Chapel Comics** (38 Reservoir St., Holden, MA 01520) is organizing a show of comics and fanzine art at the Grove Street Gallery in Worcester. Entry fee is $5 per work submitted; write for more details.

•**Circle** (PO Box 219, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572) sent me their latest **CIRCLE NETWORK BULLETIN**, basically a listing of their events, services, tapes and publications for sale. Essentially a catalog for pagans, probably available on request.

•**The Committee For Open Debate on the Holocaust** (PO Box 931089, Los Angeles, CA 90093) continues to run into trouble in publicizing their historical revisionist claims about the nature of the German treatment of Jews during WWII. If you're interested in the latest round, send $2 and ask for Bradley Smith's exchanges with Penn State's student paper over a refusal to take CODOH ads. It's amazing how many people confuse allowing freedom of speech with endorsement of views.

•**Cool Cards** (Dale Ashmun, 55 First Ave. #16, New York, NY 10003) is Dale's outlet for high-quality oddball postcards. They feature art by folks like Drew Friedman, Szukalski, and Basil Wolverton. Catalog available for an SASE.

•**Jim Dapkus** (Route 1, Box 247, Westfield, WI 53964) offers color photograph business cards at prices starting at $53 for the first 200. Send $1 for details & a sample.

•**Dimestore Comics** (PO Box 360921, Strongsville, OH 44136) has a new catalog out, announcing their third year of publication and giving the rundown on the dozens of Dimestore minis available. You can get a copy for 25¢.

•**DIRTY LINEN** (PO Box 66600, Baltimore, MD 21239) will send you the latest tour schedules for Fairport Convention and various other musicians for a 45¢ SASE.

•**DISTRIBUTION** #10 is a 250+ question survey put out by Shane Rasmussen (1430 Willlamette #177, Eugene, OR 97401). He's collecting answers on subjects like fears, death, souls, and dreams for anonymous distribution. Drop a line if you want to know more.

•**Don't Crush That Dwarf, Pass Me the Calligraphic Button Catalogue** is the 11th Edition of Nancy Lebovitz's marvelous collection of buttons, available at prices starting at 1.75 and dropping to 48¢ if you order enough of them. I'm sure you'll find some amusing slogan here that you would like to wear to work. "Please Do Not Look Into Laser With Remaining Eyeball", for example. For a copy, send a buck to 400 Wollaston Ave., C6, Newark, DE 19711.

•**DREAMSHORE** is not putting out magazines at the moment, but they will be bringing out the collected "Startrip" columns in book form some time this fall. Copies will go to everyone who subscribed or sent them money. If that doesn't apply to you, you can send $5 for a copy to PO Box 1387, Bloomington, IN 47402.

•**Drumbeat Productions** (231 E. 29th St. #113, New York, NY 10016) is offering all sorts of flotsam and jetsam — stickers, flyers, clippings, condoms, ads, handbills, coupons, and who knows what — for a 45¢ #10 SASE & a trade.

•**Chris Duffy** (PO Box 91, Mankada, IL 62958) has a couple of comics catalogs out, one featuring relatively new material and the other out-of-print independent and underground comics. You can probably get the latest for an SASE, but don't bother unless you're over 18.

•**Joe E.** (310 Penn St., Riverton, NJ 08077) has tons of art available to fanzine editors who would like to publish it and send him copies of the final product. I think his stuff is pretty good, and anyone after a gonzo sort of illustrator should contact him at 310 Penn St., Riverton, NJ 08077. He's also interested in swapping photos with anyone.

•**EGG** (c/o Mom, 10 Caravella Ln., Nanuet, NY 10954) has a poster issue out, 18x24 inches, collaged mostly out of single words clipped from here and there. You could stare at it for hours just making random connections between your neurons. For your own copy, send them 25¢ & a stamp.

•**EPHEMERA** (275 Capp St., San Francisco, CA 94110) sells a bunch of silly, hippy or just plain outrageous buttons for $1 each. You can get their catalog for 3 25¢ stamps.

•**Esoterica Castle** (349 E. Cooke Rd., Columbus, OH 43214) sells a variety of offbeat things: x-rated magic tricks, books on revenge, plain-wrap condoms, optical illusions, and books on how to get rich or get revenge, for example. Their 28-page catalog is free on request.

•**The Fifth Religious Erisian Disorganization** (36 Erskine Dr., Morristown, NJ 07960) has several new documents available, including one on "Discordian Metaphysics and the Five Realities" and one on FNORD!ing your bucks, a pastime which old-time FF readers may remember having seen here. Try an SASE and see what it gets you.

•**Flatland Distribution** (PO Box 2420, Fort Bragg, CA 95437-2420) has a catalog update available for an SASE, or you can get their entire catalog of small press books and magazines for $1.

•**Dave Foreman** of Earth First! and three other folks were arrested for "Conspiracy to Sabotage" sometime around late May. I don't have any details, but you can contact their legal defense fund at 5579 Boundary Drive S., Salem, OR 97306. *[Late news: according to ECOMEDIA, the FBI says there was a plot to sabotage Rocky Flats as part of a 3-year run of sabotage against nuclear facilities, and more arrests are expected. Even later news: EARTH FIRST! put out a special issue in mid-June, with some facts about the case (probably available for $1 from PO Box 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703.) The others arrested were Marc Baker, Mark Davis, and Peg Millett. The arrests came out of a pattern of entrapment and provocation on the part of the FBI, spearheaded by an infiltrator named Mike Tait. It seems that domestic counterintelligence operations haven't ended after all.]*

•**FREEDOM NOW** (c/o Mary Margaret, 1317 Lakewood Dr., Fort Collins, CO 80521) is trying to get libertarians to move to Fort Collins and stage a peaceful takeover by voting. For more information, send $1 and SASE.

•**The Foundation of Truth** is a new project by Daryl Friesen, to educate the masses as to what's wrong with the system through creative action. He wants held from fellow crusaders in formulating a public image. You can contact Daryl at 4955 198bst, Langley, BC, V3A 6L4, CANADA.

•**FUEL FOR FREE**, the water-powered car plans I mentioned last time, is now available for $6 Money Order *only* from Carl Cella D-22706, Box 8101, San Luis Obispo, CA 93409-0001.

•**Gallery X** in Phoenix is interested in putting on shows of experimental music, performance art, poetry, marginal writing, and so on. They need at least 3 weeks notice to set up a show. Contact Peter Petrisko, Jr., PO Box 56942, Phoenix, AZ 85079, Attn: Gallery X, for further details.

•**GOOD VIBRATIONS** (3492 22nd St., San Francisco, CA 94110) is a store in San Francisco that sells vibrators, non-sexist books on sex, dildoes and harnesses to hold them, massage oils, ostrich feathers, and other sex toys. For those of you not fortunate enough to live in such an advanced area of the country, they'll send you a mail order catalog for $2.

•**Keith Gordon** is the Music Editor of **METRO**, a community tabloid in Nashville. He reviews zines and experimental music in every biweekly issue, and is anxious to see more at PO Box 158324, Nashville, TN 37215.

•**Maxine Grodjinsky** (PO Box 5861, San Francisco, CA 94101) is starting a network to exchange letters, written and visual artwork, zines, and anything else that can be stuffed in an envelope: postcards, comics, newspaper clippings, collages, dreams, visions, whatever. Send your own stuff and some stamps and you'll get an assortment in return — the more stamps you send, the bigger your return package.

•**H23** (c/o NOISINGplace, PO Box 592, Pullman, WA 99163) "is desperately seeking contributors and advertisers to stay alive. Subject is the experimental arts: minimal to industrial, abstract to surreal — music, film, performance art, etc."

•**Heartline** (12456 Ventura Blvd. #3, Studio City, CA 91604) is "an association of individuals, therapists, educators, psychologists and ministers who are cognizant of the needs, concerns and difficulties facing people who are engaged in the development of their psychological and spiritual growth." They maintain a listing of groups for referrals, a telephone service, and various other support services for folks in the L.A. area.

•**Highlander Collections** (Highlander Center, Route 3, Box 370, New Market, TN 37820) offers books, music and posters that are "products of education for social change: words and songs written by and for people who are struggling to understand and improve life in Appalachia and the South." Maybe an SASE will net you a mailing.

•The summer update from the **Hospitality Exchange** (Lee Glickstein & Joy-Lily, 116 Coleridge St., San Francisco, CA 94110) is out, listing 50 more households where members are welcome to stay as they travel. Membership is $15; for more information, drop 'em a line.

•**The Humanarchist Front** is a new attempt to build a humanist anarchism which addresses social issues in the here & now from an authentically anarchist position. For a copy of the pamphlet laying out its basic ideas, send $1 to Mel Most, PO Box 614, New York, NY 10003.

•**The Human Being Society** (Madam X Enterprises, 3747 Roberta St., Los Angeles, CA 90031) sent me a copy of their 2-color manifesto, ending with their motto "We Are You". An SASE may land you a copy.

•**David Hynds** (5639 Worth St., Dallas, TX 75214) is trying to develop an archive of "Atomic Pop Culture", and is looking for anything referring to Atomic or Nuclear stuff produced as popular culture. He's happy to take donations, but would appreciate tips as to places to look for references.

•**ILL-VIS RULES PRODUCTIONS** (PO Box 1421, New Brunswick, NJ 08903) sent me a large pile of their postcards, which come out in limited editions of 400 or less. These range from photos of Sid Vicious and Harry Houdini (no, not together!) to drawings that would not be out of place in HEAVY METAL, all in colored inks. You can get a random selection of 7 different cards for $1 cash & a stamp, or 15 for $2 cash and 2 stamps.

•**IN.S.OMNIA** bills itself as "the magazine of interactive literature. Audition required." If you have a computer and a modem you can check them out at (206)-328-1206.

•**The Institute for the Development of Stoned Socialism** (c/o General Paper, Box 162, 12250 San Pablo Ave., Richmond, CA 94805) sent me a whole stack of photocopied papers about their beliefs — which basically amount to seeing LSD as simultaneously a political tool and a sacrament. Far out ideas that might be worth a couple of bucks to get a sample of.

•**The Intergalactic House of Fruitcakes** (PO Box 235, Williamstown, MA 01267-0235) wants you to send money to get on their offbeat mailing list. In a recent collage, they announced plans to worship the American Family Association, and even provided a postcard to send to those purveyors of decency. The next mailing proposes worship of dinosaurs as the next step in the ever-rotating Otisian pantheon.

•**International Logistics System, Inc.** (PO Box 25, Belleville, NJ 07109) sells a variety of security and criminology devices, including tear gas sprayers, phone tap detectors, night vision goggles, and much, much more. None of this is cheap, but most of it looks useful to the career paranoid. I'd suggest a request for a catalog on company letterhead, or you can FAX one to them at 201-759-8989.

•**The International Music Workers Union** (PO Box 3266, El Segundo, CA 90245-8366) continues to make mini-posters available for an SASE. A few of the latest feature a paean to pirates, an appreciation of Abbie Hoffman, and "The Flag is a Rag". They're also distributing material on the "designer disease" theory of the origin of AIDS.

•The Easel, publisher of IT'S magazine, wishes to apologize for being so long between issues lately. Release plans now are for a 12-page summer issue in July or August, and a special "20th Anniversary of Python" spectacular costing $3 in October. The Easel would like to invite you to sign a special birthday card to the Pythons as a gift from their fans. Just write your greetings on a piece of paper, with whatever decoration you like, and send to 20 Shady Ln., Nashua, NH 03062, no later than August 27.

•Most of you probably already know about the Johnson Smith Co. (4514 19th St. Ct. East, PO Box 25500, Bradenton, FL 34206), but if you need a source for hundreds of items like switchblade combs, silly string, hypnotism manuals, flag decals, tuxedo t-shirts, and other cultural offshoots, you may want to write for their catalog.

•**Sharon Kowalski** has moved to a new rehabilitation facility near Minneapolis, as the first step in a recommended rehabilitation plan to return her to a home setting with Karen Thompson. Sharon's father has requested that he be removed as guardian. In view of these successes, the National Committee to Free Sharon Kowalski has disbanded. For more information the contact is now Karen Thompson, 3070 Fulton Cir., Clearwater, MN 55320. But I suggest we let these women get on with their lives, now that their civil rights appear to finally be returning, and let them slip back out of the spotlight, as they apparently want to do.

•**KURLUK** (PO Box 6186, Baltimore, MD 21231-6186) is still putting out a catalog of magical oils, herbs, incense and the like, which you can get for two 25¢ stamps.

•**Lagoon Publications** (PO Box 309, Mill Valley, CA 94942) is expanding their catalog of resources for publishers to include audio and video tapes, databases, supplies, how-to books, forms and software. If you produce any of these and are willing to dropship, they'd like to hear from you.

•**Life Artline** (201-525-2895) is a phone service run by Glen Venezio: "Speak to a fellow God in Camouflage! Topics include: mail art, performance art, Life is Art, metaphysics, anarchy, poetry, Bolo-Bolo, or anything else you wish to converse on. 24 hours a day."

•**LIFE IS A JOKE** (2288 Hawk, Simi Valley, CA 93065) has a set of 5 postcards, including some cheery armageddon cartoons, available for a buck.

•**Light Network Publications** (PO Box 6860, Warwick, RI 02887) sells mailing lists of New Age buyers starting at $45 per 1000 names.

•**LOONACY** (Alternate Concepts, 270 W. Columbia Ave., Battle Creek, MI 49015) is a planned gluebound comic anthology that's looking for material now. They're offering royalties on the order of $25 per page, depending on how many copies they sell and who owns the copyright.

•**LUNO** is the Learning Unlimited Network of Oregon, Gene Lehman's forum for provocative educational ideas. He's into phonics, Latin, word games, and other fun things to do with the English language. A buck will get you samples from 31960 SE Chin St., Boring, OR 97009.

•Some of you may remember the letter-writing campaign on behalf of **Edward Markov**, a Soviet SF translator and writer who wanted to get out of the country. Well, good news — I was recently informed that he and his family left for Venice in March. Who says the small press never accomplishes anything?

•**Master/Slave Relationship** is now doing their own mailorder, since Cause & Effect has broken up. For a copy of their new mailorder brochure, featuring the psychosexual music works of Debbie Jaffe, try sending an SASE to PO Box 30383, Indainapolis, IN 46230.

•**Mellow Mail** (PO Box 8000, San Rafael, CA 94912-8000) have a 64-page color catalog of sexy clothing and underwear for men and women. Copies are apparently free on request. They also carry an extensive line of snotty t-shirts.

•**MONSTER RUMBLE** is a comic strip by D. Hellman & S.M. Taggart (PO Box 901, Old Chelsea Stn., New York, NY 10113), featuring a 50's-monster movie feel. Their press release is completely cryptic, but I gather they're looking for places to run the thing.

•**Gen Ken Montgomery** has just opened "Generator" at 200 E. 3rd St., New York, NY 10009. This is an experimental music store and gallery to try to promote and network the underground. He intends to focus on experimental and alternative music.

•**The Network of Alternative Student Press** (c/o Mitchell Cohen, c/o Red Balloon Collective, 2652 Cropsey Ave. #7H, Brooklyn, NY 11214) is a group of radical and alternative publishers, mainly in colleges, trying to network to get better information and have more impact on society.

•**The Nuclear Platypus Church of Arglebargle** (7630 Alicia, St. Louis, MO 63143) sent me a whole pile of strangeness, including their Bible and a training manual called "Flex Your Head". They seem to be a medley of Discordian, SubGenius and original beliefs, and say they're dedicated to suckering laymen in as well as preaching to the already-mutated. More information for an SASE, or $2 gets you their **BISCUIT BIBLE**.

•**Ben Obina** (2 Steeles Ave. W., PO Box 125, Thornhill, ONT, L4J 1A1, CANADA) sent me a couple pages of his theory of the purpose behind UFO contactees. He's after feedback if anyone cares to write for a copy.

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44101

•**...of the jungle** (PO Box 1801, Sebastopol, CA 95473) offers by mail a large selection of exotic botanical items, ready to grow. They carry the Bach flower remedies, other herbs, and a great many items that they are rather elusive about the uses of — though a book like Stafford's **PSYCHEDELICS ENCYCLOPEDIA** will prove rather suggestive in this regard. Try $1 for a catalog.

•**ON GOGOL BOULEVARD** (151 First Ave. #62, New York, NY 10003) is trying to raise money so that the **A CAPPELLA** staff in Poland can bring out a Polish version of the publication. If you care about tax-deductability, make checks to Aspect Foundation; otherwise, checks to Bob McGlynn can be made use of more quickly.

•Charles Kraybill of **PEACE ACTIVIST REVIEW** has another compilation of dates and events available called **COUNTERCULTURE TACTICS: A STUDY IN CONTRASTS; VIOLENT ACTION VERSUS NON-VIOLENT ACTION FROM 1502 THROUGH 1536 A.D.** It's available as printout or on diskette (dBASE 3 format) for $7 from 135 Corson Ave., Staten Island, NY 10301.

•**THE PEYOTE WAY CHURCH OF GOD** (Star Rt. #1, Box 7X, Willcox, AZ 85643) is continuing its fight to get peyote legalized as a serious sacrament for worshippers who lack the 25% Native American blood required by current laws. If you'd like to help out, they're looking for pledges towards continuing court costs.

•**PHOENIX SYSTEMS INC.** (PO Box 3339, Evergreen, CO 80439) sells a great deal of military equipment, from razor tape to practice grenades to helmets to holsters to tear gas to a complete M-59 Armored Personnel Carrier — this last only $65,000 FOB Denver. $2 should get you their glossy catalog #9.

•**Post Punk Postcards** are a project of Patrick Symes (41-29 Main St. #149, Flushing, Queens, NY). They're photographic images documenting the Lower East Side before it can be eaten completely by the insatiable maw of capitalism. You can get a sample card and a catalog for $1.

•**Geronimo Pratt** is a Black Panther leader who's been in prison for 17 years on trumped-up charges. For more information you can contact the Committee to Free Geronimo Pratt at 220 9th St. #443, San Francisco, CA 94103.

•**Peter Primal** (PO Box 29145, Philadelphia, PA 19127) has issued a leaflet with an article from a forthcoming issue of **LIFE IS FREE**, a paper for squatters. In it he proposes exurban freeholds as a means to begin moving from the collapsing cities back into nature. For a copy, send an SASE.

•**Proletarian Too Long** (PO Box 541, Orlando, FL 32802) sent me a small poster recommending the destruction of clocks as the first step towards getting rid of all this excess civilization. Maybe an SASE will land you a copy.

•**Promoting Enduring Peace** (PO Box 5103, Woodmont, CT 06460) makes available copies of articles on peace and how to get there for the price of postage. TO get their latest list, drop them an SASE.

•**REALITIES 1989** is a selection of facts excerpted from **DIET FOR A NEW AMERICA**, suggesting the benefits of vegetarianism. It's a good antidote to ads from the Dairy Council and Meat Board. It's 12 typeset pages, and copies are available at $92.5 for 25 copies from EarthSave, PO Box 949, Felton, CA 95018-0949.

•**ROCK AGAINST SEXISM** (464 Harrison Ave. Bsmt., Boston, MA 02118) is looking for articles bearing on their title theme for an expanded edition. "Grassroots Cultural Activism" is the particular theme for their next issue. They're also continuing their series of dances at the 1270 (ground floor, 1270 Boylston Street in Boston) the last Sunday of each month from 6 to 10 PM.

•**The Science Fiction Club of Gdansk** may be reached at ul. Chylonska 191, 81-000 Gdynia, POLAND.

•**Seb** (2601 Mesa School Ln., Santa Barbara, CA 93105) has artwork and is looking for places to put it. "Free to all, originals available, commissions invited, contributions appreciated."

•**SEED CRYSTAL 1990** is the first of a planned annual series of energizing books for new mutants and those looking forward to an ecologically sound and technologically advanced future. They're urgently in need of detailed visionary artworks for this planned art-heavy book. For more details on needs, get in touch with Cary G. Robyn, Terracon, 1440 E. 14th St., Brooklyn, NY 11230.

•**See Hear** (59 E. 7th St., New York, NY 10003) sells more copies of **FACTSHEET FIVE** than any other store in the city. They also have a mail order catalog of music magazines and books available to those of you outside the Big Apple for only a buck. And you publishers might like to know that they're starting to distribute to other stores as well; if you put out a music magazine and can offer 50% off cover terms, get in touch.

•**Nick Shears** (27 Chiltern Rd., Wendover, Aylesbury, Bucks., HP22 6DA, UK) reports that in the near future he intends to start a zine devoted to African music. He'd like to hear from people who are interested or who want to write for it.

•**Slight Chance Press** (541 Canvasback Cir., Springdale, OH 45246) has issues a set of 5 "Postcards From the Third Reich", featuring images of death and scariness. Set of 5 for $1.509.

•**Smart Pebbles** (c/o Joop, Burg. Kessensingel C3, 6227 VH Maastricht, HOLLAND) is a small press distribution service which makes available photocopies of zines from all over the world. Their list is fairly short (try an IRC for a copy), but they're looking for new things to carry too.

•**SONGS FROM SIDESHOW ALLEY** is a new zine in the works to preserve the heritage of sideshows and freakshows. Editor Brian Hesko is looking for photos, stories, memorabilia and anything else on the subject, which may be sent to him at 2503 Church Rd., Cinnaminson, NJ 08077. The zine will be available for an SASE when it's done.

•**Springhouse Naturals** (PO Box 27743, Philadelphia, PA 19150) is a source for a variety of natural fiber products, including cotton backpacks from Nepal and Guatemalan hand-colored shorts and pants.

•**James Stark** (PO Box 170381, San Francisco, CA 94117) has a set of 4 Mac-art postcards available for $1. They juxtapose images of lust, images of Jesus, and cutesy greeting-card captions for a very bizarre effect.

•**Irv Stettner** (129-2nd Ave. #3, New York, NY 10003) has available poster prints announcing a show he had at a gallery in Lyon. They're a full-color rendition of one of his colorful abstracts, about two feet by three. My copy is going up in a place of honor, as I like this artwork quite a bit. You can get your own for $30, signed and shipped.

•**A Support Network for Women with Transsexual Girlfriends** is forming in England. For more information, write to Joy Hibbert, 11 Rutland Street, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs., ST1 5JG, ENGLAND.

•**Surplus Wyvern Press** (PO Box 17642, Portland, ME 04101) has announced their next two postcard stories, to be released in August and September respectively: "Benny and George" by Avram Davidson and "Necessary Deletions" by Robert Frazier. $1 each.

•**Target Publications** (David Alexander, PO Box 300371, Brooklyn, NY 11230-0012) is looking for mystery and detective fiction "using Venice, Italy as a locale or linked thematically to the city." This is for an anthology to be called **DEATH AND VENICE**. Submit with SASE, payment is 6¢ per word, any length.

•**The Terata Publications** 1989 catalog is out, and available for 2 stamps or one IRC from PO Box 810, Hawthorne, CA 90251. These are the folks who publish things like **SURREALIST OREGON** (see below) and Denise Dumars' book of poems **SHEET LIGHTNING**. In an interesting departure from the usual catalog format they print excerpts from some of their books to give the potential reader a chance to judge the style.

•**Mike Thain** (621 Bassett Rd., Bay Village, OH 44140) has a batch of photos, including ones of Accused, Destruction, Cro-Mags, Brotherhood, and 7 Seconds, that he would like to swap with other photographers or zines.

•**The Thelemic Arts Center** (General Delivery, Accord, NY 12404; 914-626-3393) issues a monthly schedule of events, including lectures, films, performance art, readings, and whatnot.

•**THINK INK** (Claire Russell, 1452 NW 185, Seattle, WA 98177) are the U.S. suppliers of the "Print Gocco", a clever little kit for making marvelous multi-colored print designs on paper or fabric. Multiple colors and raised letter appear to be easily possible, and anyone in the mail art community with the $110 for the basic kit would find this a wonderful toy. Send a 45¢ SASE for more information.

•**THIS MONTH** is the monthly salvage and surplus catalog of H&R Corporation, offering good prices on a variety of new and used electronic and mechanical equipment. You can get in touch with them at 401 E. Erie Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19134-1187 for a copy of their current catalog.

•**Tray Full of Lab Mice Publications** (PO Box 303, Durham, NH 03824) wants to swap hate literature, Flat Earth Society news and the Kirby vacuum cleaner salesman's song book copies with anyone who sends them "euqally dumb/offensive material". They'll also send 5 free postcards & 5 free copies of their publications "to anyone who mails us dead fish (preferably dried)".

•**Graham Trievel** (Rte. 113, Box 481, Lionville, PA 18353) is interested in sending out his "Packet O'Fun" and other flotsam to anyone who sends their own "neat stuff" in trade. He's also got a want list of things like Astro Boy toys and Mr. Potato Heads that he's after, and another list of things to sell. Send some stamps and some stuff and see what happens.

•**Water Row Books** (PO Box 438, Sudbury, MA 01776) has a 21"x25" Jack Kerouac commemorative poster titled "On the Road" available for $12.98 postpaid. Or just drop them a line for their free catalog. They've also issued a set of 13 different r. Crumb postcards for $11.50 per set postpaid.

•Shane Williams (E-03020 7-19U, CCI Level II, PO Box 608, Tehachapi, CA 93561), former music editor of **FACTSHEET FIVE**, is back in the pokey again. He wants to hear from folks he lost track of over the last couple of years, and is asking to be put back on freebie lists since, of course, he's broke again.

•P.D. Wilson (3720 17th Ave., Columbus, GA 31904) reports that a lot of stuff in his place was ruined by flooding last month, including several orders for his **SAWTOOTH PULSE**. If you ordered one and didn't get it, send him a note.

•**The Women's Amateur Wrestling Association of Howell** (Kirk Gilfillen, PO Box 18, Howell, NJ 07731) carries a wide variety of material on the subject of women wrestling, boxing, fighting, light B&D and S&M as well — photos, books, magazines, and video. Send $1 for their latest price list.

•**The World Wide Music Union** (PO Box 2246, Anaheim, CA 92814) is made up of former members of the International Music Workers Union — quite a few of them, to judge from the supportive letters I've received. Membership is $3 per month, and includes a quarterly newsletter. They're active in sponsoring gigs and spreading information in the alternative music community. An SASE should get you more on their various projects.

•Ed Zolna (PO Box 1278, Roslyn, PA 19001) is anxious to send you a catalog of his comics (**FRAN AN' MAABL, TALES FROM ROSLYN**). So anxious, in fact, that he'll send you a copy for free, which will let you sample his artwork and wacky ideas at no risk.

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FACTSHEET FIVE PROJECTS

•I now have available for other publishers a list of distributors and stores who would like to see new zines for possible sale. This includes all the folks who sell FF, whether directly or to stores, and with as many details as possible on what they want and what their terms are as I know. Send me an SASE (be sure to tell me what it's for!) and I'll send you a copy.

•The collected book of Anni Ackner's columns is out at last!. The collection is called **NOBODY LOVES A VISUAL ARTS CRITIC**, and it features all of her writings from FF, as well as four new columns (unavailable elsewhere), an introduction by Elayne Wechsler and graphics by Freddie Baer. At 134 pages, it's even bigger than I expected, and a better value. You can get a copy book rate for $4, or first class for $5.50. 75% of the profits are going to Anni, so I'd really like to sell a lot of these. Think what they'll be worth in twenty years when she's a wealthy mainstream author.

•**FACTSHEET FIVE** T-Shirts, designed by Freddie Baer, are now available for a measley $8.50 postpaid. The only color available is yellow, but it's a yellow that will knock your eyes back into your skull, not some wimpy pastel color. Well, actually, the second edition is a bit wimpier (so you early buyers, you have a collectors' item!), but still beautiful. Specify size or we'll send you whatever we feel like. Think of the possibilities for starting a conversation!

•I now have a new set of **FACTSHEET FIVE** ads available, also typeset and put together by Freddie Baer. In the future I may swap or pay for some of these to be published, but meanwhile if you want to give me a free plug write and I'll send you a copy.

•I am still offering the **FACTSHEET FIVE** mailing list on self-adhesive labels. This issue's list of around 3200 names is available for $115. If you prefer, you can get the list on plain paper for $90. I can also provide specialty lists (all fanzines, all distributors, all music zines, all artists, or most anything else you can come up with) for 5¢ a name on labels or 3¢ a name on paper.

•I am also prepared to offer the mailing list on IBM-PC compatible DSDD diskettes. The mailing list is archived on one diskette and I'll include the shareware DBMS I use on a second diskette. *You must have a hard disk to access the FF mailing list!* If you are interested in getting the actual text of the zine on diskette, please contact me to discuss appropriate hardware and software, or check the FF BBS. You can get the mailing list set for $12.

•If anyone doesn't want their name given out on mailing labels or diskette, please let me know.

•The Gemstone File is a conspiratorial mishmash of theories that have been circulating in samisdat form around the US. I have copies of six different versions (something over 90 pages total) available for $9.00 total to those interested in this sort of thing — and I'm looking for more versions if you have any. (See the Books section in FF22 for more precise details on this item. One short variant has been added since that review was written.)

•Martti Koski's **MY LIFE DEPENDS ON YOU**, an account of RCMP mind control experiments, is available for $1.

•The **FF ZINE EXCHANGE** has been a great success this past quarter, and there's more good stuff than ever to be had for free. Zine Editors: If you're at all interested in having samples of your zine go to people who don't even know you exist, send as many as you want to me to distribute. The rest of you: Send me an SASE with 25¢ to $2.40 postage and I'll stuff it with whatever I have laying about ($2.40 is enough to mail a couple of pounds in the country, so use a decent-sized envelope [10x13 is a good size]: two pounds is about 8 issues of FF, OK?). You should also take a look at a rate chart; while $2.40 will cover postage on two pounds, $2.30 is only enough for eleven ounces. I'd recommend springing for the full two pounds. You might also take note of six similar offers:

Dallas Swan's (7206 Brookbank Ln., Raleigh, NC 27615) offer to fill up large SASEs with as many zines as they will hold;

Merritt Clifton's (**SAMISDAT**, PO Box 129, Richford, VT 05476) standing offer to sell you as many pounds of poetry as you want for $1.50 per pound;

Ellen Levitt's (1121 E. 22nd St., Brooklyn, NY 11210) offer of rejected poems and short articles from the magazine she works for (**TRUE LOVE**, a romance magazine) for 25¢ & an SASE;

Jim Testa's (151 First Ave., Box A., New York, NY 10003) Demo Xchange of band demo tapes, also available for a few dollars postage;

Spoo's (1991 Madison St., Eugene, OR 97405) offer of "mysterious surprises" for 50¢ an ounce;

and Rosemary West's (PO Box 8059, Mission Hills, CA 91346) offer of personalized computer-generated poetry for 50¢ an ounce, up to five pounds — send your name and the names of a few friends to assure personalization.

Anyhow, remember, send a **SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE** to minimize the work I have to do. I mean it. The next person who sends a blank envelope and a check, instead of buying the stamps himself and pasting them on, is going to get something nasty in the mail. If he gets anything at all. OK, OK, I'll make an exception for those of you in foreign countries: just send me a check or cash and a self-addressed envelope and I'll do the rest. Those out of the country can supply up to $4.50 worth of postage, since the rates are higher. Those in the country should stop using such obviously glued stamps or I'm going to start pitching your envelopes in the trash. *This has already happened to some people stupid enough to ignore what I've said! Use mint stamps only!!* And please be patient; the overflow zines have been displaced to the attic by the archives, and so I only stuff envelopes once every week or two. I take longer when it's cold up there.

A few clarifications about the Zine Exchange: No, I am not going to send you any back issues of **FACTSHEET FIVE**. No, you may not request a specific zine you saw reviewed here; that copy is in the archives, and that's where it's staying. You can request a specific type of zine, but often I cannot fill requests; it depends on what's been sent to me recently for distribution.

•I haven't put together the index for this issue, but I expect it to be about a 24-page pamphlet. If you want to see a copy, send me $1.50. To get it every issue, you should sign up for a library rate subscription.

•**HOW TO PUBLISH A FANZINE** is my first book, out now from Loompanics. In it I reveal darned near everything I've learned in ten years of small publishing, from production through printing and binding to the mails to promotion and financing. It's 91 pages perfect-bound, published by Loompanics, but I'll send you a copy of your very own — autographed even — for $6 postpaid if you buy it from me.

RC © 89
THEY MAY JUST BE PIXIES....... BUT!!!
THEY'RE BLOODY MAD AT 20ieth Century Society!

Just a few hints to consider when you're writing away for fanzines:

•If I list a name in the address for a zine, you ought to make checks or money orders out to that name rather than the zine name. If a zine has odd payment requirements, I try to note this in the address section of the listing. In general, cash is preferable to money orders which are preferable to checks.

•On a related topic, when I put a question mark after the price it means that I'm guessing because the zine editors didn't list a price.

•I list single copy rates whenever I can find them, otherwise I try to indicate how many issues your subscription covers. If I put something like "$10/yr" it means I can't tell how many issues come out in a year.

•If I separate issue numbers with a dash, they're single issues; a slash indicates two-in-one issues. So, for example, "#7-11/12" indicates that I received #7, a double issue containing #11 and #12, and everything in between. Prices given are for one issue, not for a set of all the issues reviewed, unless otherwise indicated.

•On zines with a price under $1, it really helps to include a few stamps for postage. "SASE" means self-addressed stamped envelope: #10 with 25¢ postage unless otherwise specified.

•Don't send loose coins in an envelope. If you want to send coins, tape them to an index card and wrap a piece of paper around that. And remember that there's a postal surcharge on envelopes more than 1/4 inch thick.

•Canadians generally don't mind receiving U.S. funds, but for other countries you should think about alternative payment. Foreign currency is available at larger banks, and IRCs (International Reply Coupons, which can be exchanged for stamps almost anywhere in the world) at your post office. Foreign MOs are also available from the post office, but can take forever to get. Sending checks to other countries is not a good idea; bank exchange charges can be outrageous.

•"Age Statement" means that you should send along a signed note saying that you're over 18 (or over 21, if you are) to help the publisher avoid legal hassles associated with distributing sexually-explicit material.

•"The Usual" refers to the traditional method of obtaining SF fanzines without sullying oneself with cash. Generally this includes trading other zines, writing locs, contributing articles or art, or being recipient of a whim.

These days $1 is often accepted as the equivalent to these more active approaches.

- I'd appreciate it if you'd mention **FACTSHEET FIVE** when ordering zines you saw reviewed here. It helps us all in the long run, as the more credibility I build up the more fine zines I'll be able to bring to your attention.
- If you have any problems with a zine please let me know. I'll be happy to contact publishers in cases of non-receipt. 99% of the time it's just a case of things being lost in the mail.
- If you have time, any zine publisher enjoys hearing comments on the zine he has sent you. This is especially true if you didn't like it; we all like to improve. Even a simple note of thanks can make a publisher's day, though.
- Many zine publishers print small quantities, so you may not be able to get the exact issue that I reviewed. If you must have that particular issue, say so, and be prepared to pay extra. Otherwise it's best just to request the most recent or the next issue and save trouble for everyone. And be patient; if the current issue is all gone, it may take a while.
- Most zine publishers are willing to exchange their zines for others, so I generally don't mention this in listings unless I know they *don't* swap. But use some discretion — a 150-page typeset music publication is unlikely to swap with a 4-page xeroxed newsletter on Central American farming. And remember, publishers are under no obligation to respond to unsolicited zines, so if you can't afford to give away the copy, don't send it.

★★★★★

ZINES

Sometimes I get publicity for zines without getting copies of the zines themselves. Here's the news on a few items that I haven't read for myself:

- **ARCANA** ($2.50 from Zachary C. Kirby, 597 E. College St., Oberlin, OH 44074) is a forthcoming Tarot zine that will feature actual cards and posters as well as pictures within the zine itself.
- **BRAN'S WISDOM** (Info for 1 stamp from ICE Phoenix Enterprises, PO Box 644, Georgetown, CA 95634) is a directory of alternative interest groups, solitary pagans, SCA'ers, artistic folks and other Bohemians at colleges around the country.
- **THE EDGE** ($5 cash from 56 Writtle Road, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 3BU, ENGLAND) is a bimonthly of sf, horror, fantasy and other imaginative genres which debuted in May.
- **ERASER CARVER QUARTERLY** ($1.50 from Blue Tulip Impressions, 730 W. 11th St., Waterloo, IA 50702) is a new zine for people who make stamps at home from erasers. It should be debuting right about the time this issue of FF comes out.
- **FEMINIST TEACHER** ($12/yr from Ballantine 442, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405) is a magazine for women who are teachers and want to incorporate a feminist perspective in their work, with an emphasis on networking.
- **FREE SPEECH** ($129/25 issues from 8600 West Chester Pike #300, Upper Darby, PA 19082) is a new biweekly from the publishers of **ADULT VIDEO NEWS**, covering first amendment news (especially as it relates to adult films).
- **GENERATOR** 3 ($5 from John Byrum, 8139 Midland Rd., Mentor, OH 44060) is an 88 page collection of international poetry and art,
- **GREENS BIBLIOGRAPHY** ($5 from Jay Michael Ochs, 443 Market St., Williamsport, PA 17701) is an index, with annotations, of 827 articles, books, and other sources of information on the Green movement.
- **MYRIAD** (c/o Wendy Yeck, 1720 Pacific Ave. #6, Venice, CA 90291) is for "experimental fiction, political commentary, xerographic art, and essays on just about anything." Submissions now being accepted.
- **THE NEON NEWS** ($15/yr from Ted Pirsig, 870 Kapahulu Ave., PO Box 90442, Honolulu, HI 96835) is a new magazine for neon lighting workers and artists.
- **OUT/LOOK** ($18/yr from PO Box 460430, San Francisco, CA 94146-0430) is a "new quarterly magazine of lesbian and gay culture, politics, and opinion."
- **PENTAGRAM** ($2 from Zachary C. Kirby, 597 E. College St., Oberlin, OH 44074) is a new pagan journal coming out sometime between Midsummer and Mabon, focusing on the balance of Goddess/God and avoiding sticking to one particular tradition.
- **PRIVATE LIVES** ($29/12 issues from PO Box 1550, Madison Square Station, New York, NY 10159) bills itself as "The newsletter for the sexually adventurous", bringing you lots of "secret erotic techniques that help bring new heights of ecstasy" every month.
- **QUIM** (£2.75 from BM 2182, London WC1N 3XX, ENGLAND) is a new "sexy, challenging magazine for lesbians". That's a price for delivery within the UK; better enquire for rates if you're outside.
- **STRANGE PLASMA** ($3 from Edgewood Press, PO Box 264, Cambridge, MA 02238) is a science fiction & fantasy zine which includes works from Gene Wolfe and R.A. Lafferty.
- **SUNDOG** ($4 from English Dept., Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306) is FSU's literary magazine. Their Fall issue will contain the finalists from their Short Short Story Contest.

THOSE FUNNY NUMBERS

What the little stuff in parentheses after each zine review do is tell you how big the zine is. First comes a letter for the size of the paper, or at least close to it:

A3	A3 size, about 11 1/2 by 16 1/4
A4	A4 size, about 8 1/4 by 11 1/2
A5	A5 size, about 5 3/4 by 8 1/4
D	Digest, 5 1/2 by 8 1/2
HL	Half Legal, 7 by 8 1/2 or 4 1/4 by 14
HS	Half Standard, 4 1/4 by 11
L	Legal, 8 1/2 by 14
M	Mini, 4 1/4 by 5 1/2
MM	Micro, smaller than mini
O	Oversized, larger than tabloid or odd-sized
Q	Quarto, 8 by 10
S	Standard, 8 1/2 by 11
T	Tabloid, usually 11 by 17 on newsprint

Next comes a number, which is the number of pages. Last there may be a suffix: "t" for typeset or laser-printed, or "r" for photo-reduced type.

ADVERTISING

FACTSHEET FIVE advertising space is available as follows:

Full Page	7 1/2 by 9 3/4
Half Page	7 1/2 by 4 3/4
Half Page	3 3/4 by 9 3/4
Quarter Page	3 3/4 by 4 3/4
Eighth Page	3 3/4 by 2 1/4
Card	2 1/4 by 2

Copy should be submitted as camera-ready, in the size it is to run. For sizes not on the list, please call me. *Please note: a standard business card is an eight-page ad; "card" ads are to run three across the page and will be reduced to fit if you send business cards but only pay $10!!* Current rates are as follows:

Back Cover with Second Color	$160.00
Full Page with Second Color	$140.00
Full Page	$120.00
Half Page	$65.00
Quarter Page	$40.00
Eighth Page	$20.00
Business Card	$10.00

Ads which are paid in advance for two or more insertions may take a 20% discount from the above prices — and are protected from price rises during the life of the ad. As I anticipate having to raise prices again sometime soon as circulation rises, this is a good deal. If we hit 7500 copies by the end of the year I'll be charging about $180 for a full page. This discount does not apply to business card sized ads. This discount also does not apply to ads with a second color.

I think these rates are still pretty reasonable, especially compared to what other folks want. **BOSTON REVIEW**, for example, just invited me to spend $400 for an ad the same size as my full page — and their circulation is only 10,000. (Of course, you have to look for this number, since the cover letter mentions only "20,000 highly literate readers". I don't inflate my figures that way.)

Ad space needing a second color, either back cover or interior, should be reserved with me before sending in copy, as this space is obviously limited. Other ads need not reserve space in advance, though you're welcome to do so.

Generally, I do not trade advertising with other publishers, though I make *rare* exceptions for those with a large circulation in areas that I don't ordinarily reach.

SPECIAL OFFER: For #31 *only*, any full-page ad may have a second color for free — that's only $120 for a full-page ad with a second color! Just mention you saw this offer when you send in your ad.

ABSOLUTE PROHIBITION#1

No State shall —— enter into any treaty, alliance or confederation,*** Our Constitution. Six supreme Court cites attest to the absolute nature of that ban. That is, Congress may not lawfully legislate to force any State to make a treaty and so on. If you are concerned in any way about SAVING YOURSELF AND AMERICA FROM FINANCIAL RUIN, Call Frank at 303 935 4815 or write:

Library of truth Box 19523, Denver - CO 80219 Our fine FREE information packet will be sent to you.

AEDITORIAL
MG
(c)1984

Long-time readers will note a return to a policy that held here long ago: I am now reviewing every bit of small-scale and alternative periodical literature that crosses my desk, even things published by the KKK and the Nazis. I've decided that I simply will not continue to pretend that these things don't exist, nor will I take it upon myself to decide what you don't need to see. So the hate literature is back. If you want to know more about my philosophical basis for this decision, read John Stuart Mill's **ON LIBERTY**; if you want your money back,, let me know and I'll send you a refund check and remove you from the ailing list at once.

I see the **UTNE READER** has announced the nominees for "The Alternative Press Awards". Out of 77 publications on their list, there are precisely 9 that you get to read about here. The rest of their alternatives are bigger, more expensive, and (dare I say it?) yuppier than the zines I review. Now, I've done enough **UTNE**-bashing in the past that I don't really need to spend a lot of room on this. But anyone who thinks that **NEW AGE JOURNAL**, **THE BOSTON PHOENIX**, and **MOTHER JONES** are "the cutting edge of fresh thinking, humor, and design" is simply out of touch with the *real* ferment in publishing these days. What about **EULIPIAN? RAMPIKE? EXIT? BLUEPRINT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE? FLIPSIDE?** Unlike the **UTNE** folks, I don't have the arrogance to pronounce a benediction over the "best" things seen from one narrow point of view. If you want to know what I like, read the "Publisher's Choice" column in **FF** — but then go out and form your own opinions on what's best in the alternative press.

One thing I want to mention here is that other publishers need not send me money for their copies of **FACTSHEET FIVE**. This does not, of course, mean that I will turn down money; indeed, I greatly appreciate those of you who contribute. And if you want to get your review copy first class instead of bulk rate, it will cost you $1 per issue. But other than that, you're free of financial obligation.

More and more publishers seem to be getting in touch with me about reader response — namely, that they don't get enough of it. Readers, remember, the people who put out all these fine magazines are spending time, trouble, money, energy, blood, toil, tears, sweat and who knows what else for little reward. Even a postcard really helps brighten up the day. Even a hate letter shows that someone read what you wrote. If you have the chance, be a responsive reader.

A tip for anyone who does a lot of overseas mailing: for years and years I sent **FF** overseas by printed matter, surface rate — whose only saving grace is cheapness. This time, though, I tried using a firm which consolidates overseas mail into full sacks and ships it ISAL (International Surface Air Lift). The difference was phenomenal. For 9¢ more an issue, I got two-week instead of four-month service. Anyhow, if you mail a lot of copies of your zine overseas (they claim to handle 1 to 1 million copies at a time), get in touch with Johnson & Hayward, 516 W. 19th St., New York, NY 10011; (800)-521-0080 or, in New York, (212)-675-4250. As a bonus, they put their customers on the mailing list for the **OVERSEAS MAIL INCIDENT BULLETIN**, which lists all the things that can delay your mail, from rail strikes in Italy to tropical storms in Bangladesh.

In fact, Johnson & Hayward is so efficient that sending copies via them was only a bit slower than going air mail. So if there's any air mail subscribers who would like to convert to ISAL, drop me a line and I'll extend your subscription accordingly. But look for the overseas surface rate to rise, probably to $3 an issue, later this year; as my circulation in Europe increases, I can't afford to lose as much money.

And now for something a lot of artists out there have been waiting for: **THE FACTSHEET FIVE COVER COMPETITION**. Yes, I've almost used up the covers I have in stock, and I'm looking for more. If you have an idea for a FF cover, send me an SASE for the cover guidelines. Then submit a rough sketch (not finished art!). I'll pick the ones I like best and assign them cover numbers and dates. But hurry; I expect to start making decisions by the tail end of this year that will decide the covers for most or all of 1990.

I've got two speaking engagements confirmed for this fall. On September 2nd (my 30th birthday) I'll be at the Thelemic Arts Center on Main Street, Accord, NY (across from the Post Office; 914-626-3393); the topic for the evening may be "Fanzines & Transformation", or it may be something else entirely. Then on November 18th I'll be at The Second Annual North Brooklyn Small Press Convention at the Minor Injury Gallery (1073 Manhattan Ave, Bronx, NY). I don't know what I'll be talking about there. If you want more information on either event, call me closer to the dates they'll be happening.

DIABOLOS GRAPHICS EXCHANGE

GORE AND MUCH, MUCH MORE — THE PERFECT ARCHIVE FOR PUBLISHERS OF DEATHZINES AND STUDENTS OF THE MACABRE. CHOOSE FROM OUR REPOSITORY OF SICKNESS.

WE'VE GOT:

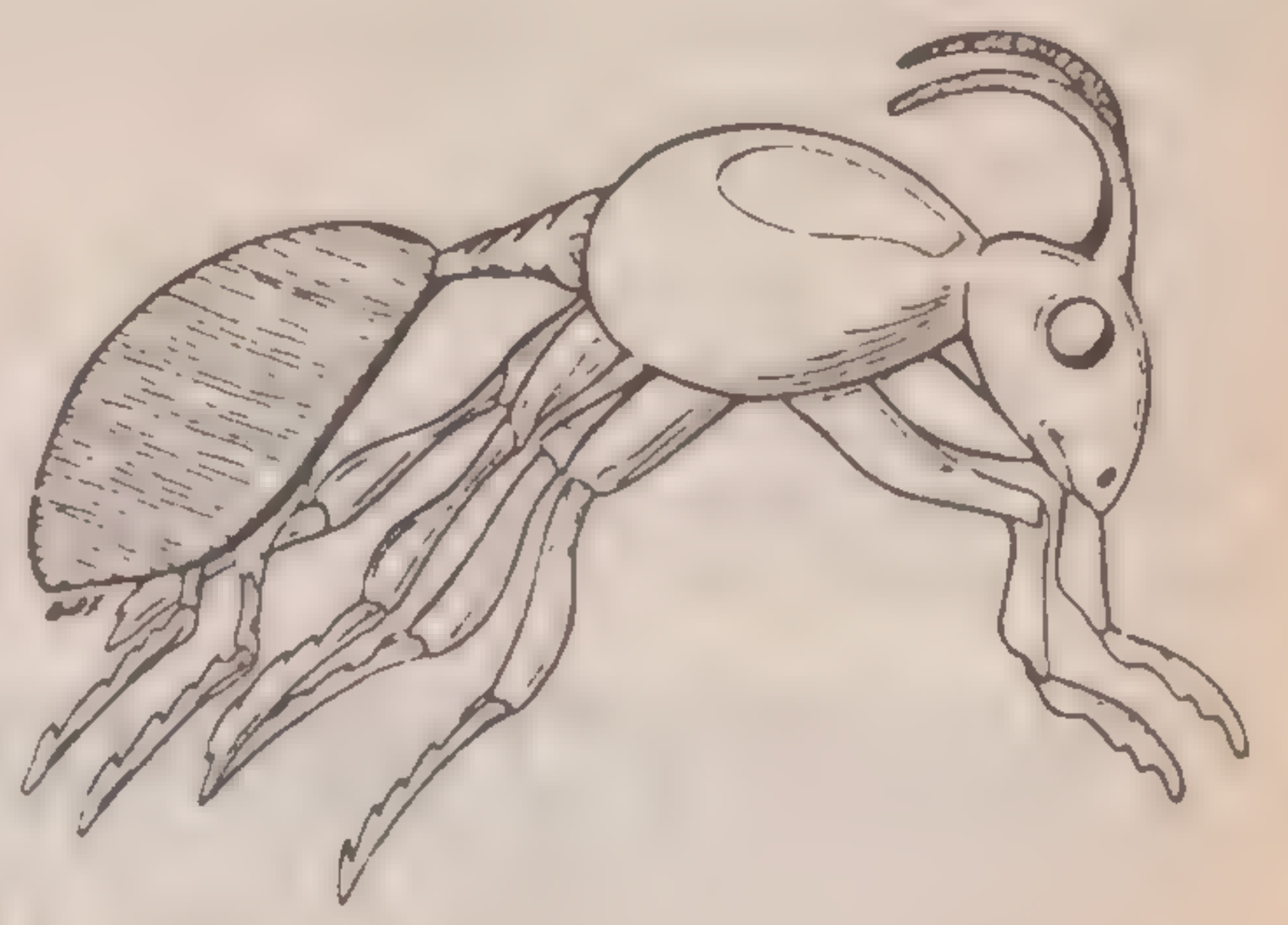
GENETIC MUTATION, CANNIBALISM, PLASTIC SURGERY, SKIN DISEASE, CORONER'S PHOTOS, FUNERAL ART, VICTORIANA, VAMPIRISM, MASS MURDER, GENOCIDE, TORTURE, GHOSTS, WITCHCRAFT, PARANORMAL PHENOMENÆ, HORROR & SPLATTER MOVIE STILLS, NECROPHILA, SEX CRIMES, HIGHWAY PATROL ACCIDENT PHOTOS, SATANISM, ESCHATOLOGY, FORBIDDEN LITERATURE, TERATA, AND STRANGE SUICIDES.

THE LARGEST LIBRARY ON DEATH AND RELATED SUBJECTS IN THE WORLD.

SEND $6.00 PLUS $1.00 FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING FOR SIX SUBJECTS (PLEASE BE SPECIFIC) TO:

D.G.E. — P.O. BOX 4527, PORTLAND, OREGON 97208.

11" X 17" POSTERS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.



HELP US FIGHT THE MICHAEL STOTTS' CASE

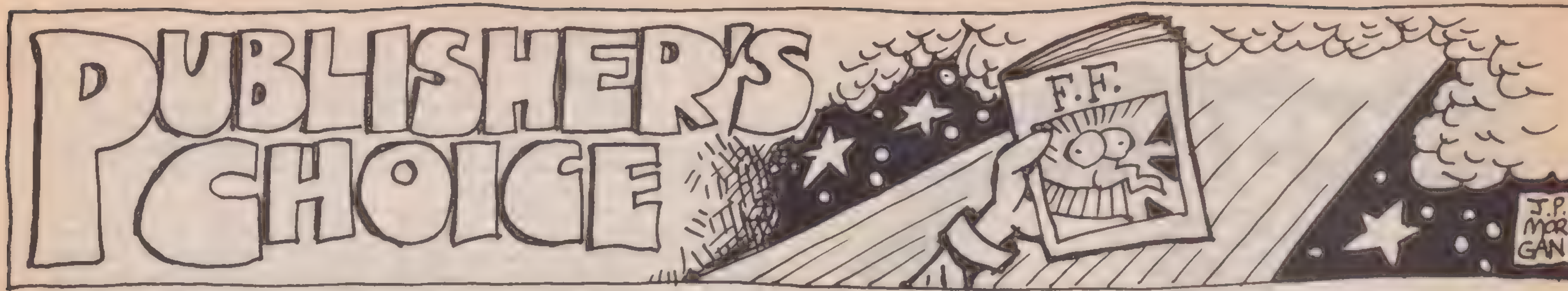
• injustices by the justice system and the Federal Government against an innocent man

"IF ONE IS CAPTIVE, NONE ARE FREE !"

DONATIONS BADLY NEEDED !

•for information and donations

P.A.N.A.L.
P.O. BOX 4167
HALFMOON, NY 12065


PUBLISHER'S CHOICE
F.F.
J.P. MORGAN

★★★★★

COMICS F/X #8-9 ($2 from PO Box 95968, Seattle, WA 98145-2968): There are a lot of comics news journals out there. This is the one I find consistently interesting and useful, even as a non-member of comics fandom. Besides dozens of reviews and bits of news from the field, they print a variety of stories and editorial pieces. A few of the things in #8: Steve Willis on small press censorship; Matt Feazell on how to use Zipatone; Brad Foster on distinguishing small from big press; and Christopher Erwin on copyrights and how to register them. There's also information on a batch of clubs and associations, including SPA, The UFO and Pizazz, plus an interview with underground cartoonist Spain and the '88 Morty Awards. #9 is a special "Canadian Invasion" issue, with features on Colin Upton, Canuck Comics, Jacques Boivin and Sylvie Rancourt, Jackie Carriere, and more, as well as the usual features. Well-packed and fun. (T-36)

★★★★★

DIRTY LINEN #25 ($5 from PO Box 66600, Baltimore, MD 21239-6600): "The Journal of Folk, Folk-Rock, and Traditional Music" does an amazingly good job of covering this corner of the musical universe — which it has largely to itself. Some of the folks in this issue: Fairport Convention, Cathy Fink, Arlo Guthrie, Trevor Lucas, and Any Trouble. They have an international information base, and print an incredible amount of stuff about concerts, rare (and not-so-rare) releases, and who's been playing what with whom lately. Bits of news lead the whole off, and it closes with concert and tour schedules for a few dozen performers in the genre. It all comes together in an attractive desktop format. Subscriptions also include the 6-page **DIRTY LINEN UPDATE**, with late news and concert schedules, so you get a fix six times a year. (S-78t)

★★★★★

EULIPIAN #4 ($3 CASH from Don Baker, PO Box 61387, Seattle, WA 98121): Easily the most graphically striking zine I've seen all week, in several colors on various types of paper (including a color cover and heavy tracing stock inside). Don prints poetry and prose and wild art, and says "The guide I sometimes use for judging contributing material is: if I don't quite understand it, it must belong". This leads to poetry from Weinman and DeChant, short stories from Mark Rose, and reviews of terrible records, for example. Don also puts together cultural sidelights like a view of the American voter or some correspondence from various famous subscribers. Comes with radioactive candy and a couple of pamphlets, **NATIONAL RHETORIC** and **TRANSIENT CONTINUUM**. These can be had separately for one stamp each if you want to get a taste of Don's work. A coffee-table magazine for the nineties. (O-20t)

★★★★★

FOSFAX #139 ($2 from FOSFA, PO Box 37281, Louisville, KY 40233-7281): The clubzine of the Falls of the Ohio Science Fiction and Fantasy Society, which has grown into one of today's premiere sfanzines. They lead off each issue with a clump of lengthy reviews and articles — cold fusion is one of the big topics in #139. #140 has some details on the recent Hugo bloc-voting case, which appear to imply that the Noreascon folks are decidedly in the wrong, plus a note by Dale Speirs on the similarities between polywater and cold fusion. Then there's a small section of fanzine reviews, followed by the heart of the zine: the lettercol, where BNFs and pros rub elbows with the rest of us, discussing everything under the sun at length. It's sort of like a moderated apa featuring such luminaries as Don Webb, Harry Warner Jr., Alexis Gilliland, L. Sprague de Camp, Mike Glicksohn, Robert Bloch, and many more. (S-44r)

★★★★★

NATIONAL BOYCOTT NEWS Vol. II #4 ($2.50 from 6506 28th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98115): A whopping large collection of information from the growing boycott movement in this country. NBN lists dozens of boycotts, specifying for each who called it and why and giving as much background as possible, including corporate responses. They also have in-depth articles on especially prominent boycotts, including those of grapes, Coors, Wendy's, Nestle, and more. This issue also features the start of a new "buycott" section — buycotts are boycotts in reverse, shifting one's dollars towards a particular goal (for example, buying New Zealand products to support their anti-nuke policies). There is an immense amount of information here, presented with impressive fairness and balance. This is simply indispensible for the socially responsible consumer. (S-196t)

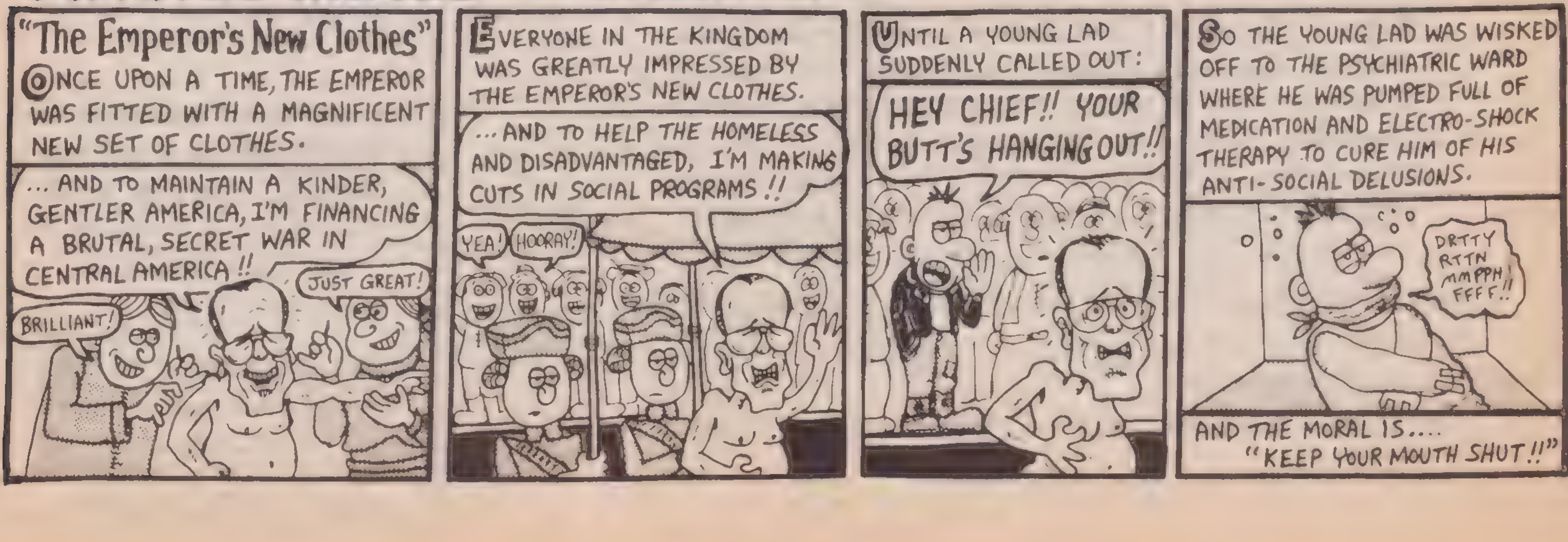
★★★★★

PHOTOSTATIC #36 ($8/6 issues from Lloyd Dunn, 911 N. Dodge St., Iowa City, IA 52244): A bimonthly "periodical of xerographic art and by extension, machine-based art generally". I was confused by and hostile to the first few issues of this zine I saw. Nowadays, thanks to the efforts of people like Bob Grumman, Geof Huth, and Miekal And (all of whom appear here) I may still be confused but I'm a lot more sympathetic. Images of xerographic art intermingle with essays on their significance and classification to make up the main body here. Luke McGuff adds slogans to the bottom of the page, and the mysterious Tape Beatles chime in with a music supplement at the end. There are also reviews of new works in the field and notices of forthcoming shows and events. Lloyd also runs other publications which fulfill similar needs in the sound, sight, and computer works. One of the best places to start digging into the vast network of artists who don't usually make it into the galleries. (HL-48t)

★★★★★

PSYCHEDELIC MONOGRAPHS AND ESSAYS #4 ($13.98 from Rosetta, PO Box 4611, Berkeley, CA 94704): An annual publication done up as a softcover book, this is a very well-researched set of essays and articles on various psychoactive drugs. They don't tell you how to make things or otherwise go for sensationalism. Rather, the writers here investigate topics like the medical evidence on side effects of MDMA, the esoteric meanings of Castenada's books, and the connection between meditation and resonance. Tim Leary contributes an essay called "Criminalizing the Natural" and several people discuss the still largely-unknown compound U4Euh. Comes with references, photos, and book reviews. (S-257t)

TWISTED IMAGE by Ace Backwords ©1989


"The Emperor's New Clothes"
ONCE UPON A TIME, THE EMPEROR WAS FITTED WITH A MAGNIFICENT NEW SET OF CLOTHES.
... AND TO MAINTAIN A KINDER, GENTLER AMERICA, I'M FINANCING A BRUTAL, SECRET WAR IN CENTRAL AMERICA !!
JUST GREAT!
BRILLIANT!
EVERYONE IN THE KINGDOM WAS GREATLY IMPRESSED BY THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES.
... AND TO HELP THE HOMELESS AND DISADVANTAGED, I'M MAKING CUTS IN SOCIAL PROGRAMS !!
YEA!
HOORAY!
UNTIL A YOUNG LAD SUDDENLY CALLED OUT:
HEY CHIEF!! YOUR BUTT'S HANGING OUT!!
SO THE YOUNG LAD WAS WISKED OFF TO THE PSYCHIATRIC WARD WHERE HE WAS PUMPED FULL OF MEDICATION AND ELECTRO-SHOCK THERAPY TO CURE HIM OF HIS ANTI-SOCIAL DELUSIONS.
DRTTY RTTN MMPPH! FFFF!!
AND THE MORAL IS.... "KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT!!"

Inc.
Money
12 GREAT WORRY-FREE INVESTMENTS

★★★★★

105 MAGAZINE ($2 from Thelemic Arts Center, 27 Teetsel St., Saugerties, NY 12477): This large-format literary and opinion mag came out back in '85, thanks to a group centered around SUNY New Paltz. It's not coming out any more, but the folks at TAC have plenty left for sale, in case you'd like some minor nostalgia. It's a nice package, full of stories and drawings and photography and a good politically-oriented news section. Too bad it went under before I could plug it, but it's not too late to experience a copy. (O-52t)

★★★★★

THE 10 BM REPORT May/June 1989 (75¢ from Kaas for Alarm Productions, PO Box 2063, Loop Stn., Minneapolis, MN 55402): A minizine with a bit of everything. There's centerfold photos of the band Little Green Men, a strange musically-oriented comic, recycling info for Minnetonka residents, and a bit of road trip story in this issue. Elusive. (M-40)

★★★★★

THE 11TH ST RUSE Vol. 2 #8-9 ($1/4 issues from 322 E. 11th St. #23, New York, NY 10003): A curious literary outpouring with a subscription policy of not throwing people off the list unless they request it. In #8 there is more strange vocabulary, a continued story of runaway prodigies, and a literally incredible look at life in Poland. #9 reports on a recent wedding, from both sides of the aisle, and analyzes the responses to their reader survey. (S-4)

★★★★★

11X30 Vol. 1 #3 ($1 (?) from Toledo Poets Center, 32 Scott House, The University of Toledo, Toledo, OH 43606-3390): The title is also the size (in inches) of this broadsheet dealing with new literary productions and criticisms. #3 includes a scattershot essay by Michael Kasper on the joys of short prose, a few bits of postcard literature, and a roundup of local and regional news. (O-1t)

★★★★★

2600 Vol. 6 #1-2 ($18/yr from PO Box 752, Middle Island, NY 11953-0752): The premiere journal for hackers and phone phreaks. They try to steer people away from vandalism and theft and towards interesting investigations, though one wonders how sincere this is at times. #1 contains news on unix, the lowdown on payphones (quite fascinating) and cautionary tales from folks who got busted. #2 has a great introduction to phreaking, in the form of a long answer to a beginner's letter. (D-46t)

★★★★★

8 1/2X11ZINE #6 (The Usual from David Thayer, 7209 Deville, NRH, TX 76180): A "personal amateur newsletter", where David can let down his hair and talk about things like Vietnam or his marriage and kids, or invite others to talk via their letters of comment. Features a very nice selection of fannish artwork as well as simple and direct tales of an interesting life. (S-8t)

★★★★★

89¢ Vol. 1 #2 ($10/3 issues from 24305 Magna Ave., Hayward, CA 94544): "A journal of writing", this collection of poetry, prose and art proudly announces its eclecticism rather than adhering to any one literary standard; all they ask of contributors is "an authenticity of vision". In practice this ranges from new translations of Rilke to an angry black/gay prose/poem to a short story from the sex-work trade. (S-29t)

★★★★★

ABC NO RIO MAGAZINE #3-4 (Free, but I'd say send about $1 for postage, from 156 Rivington St., New York, NY 10002): An outgrowth of a performance space in the city, this is a collection of poems, texts, original and found artworks. Much of the focus is on the disenfranchised and the suffering, though a wide variety of subjects make their way into this chaotic work. Some excellent use of the xerographic medium is evident as well. (S-68)

★★★★★

ABSOLUTELY ZIPPO #9 (25¢ & a stamp from 1550 Mann Dr., Pinole, CA 94564): Music coverage from some of the more obscure parts of the Bay area: the East Bay, the North Bay, and forsaken places with names like Benicia and Pinole. They do show reviews, opinion bits, and silly things like the punk villains word search in #9. (D-20r)

★★★★★

A CAPPELLA (Donation from Adam Jagusiak, ul. Grunwaldzka 33/3, 81-754 Sopot, POLAND): A Polish anarchist zine, all in Polish but with a short English-language summary. They cover current events, anarchist and feminist theory, the Greens, and the situation in Poland, plus they print some very unique graphics. They can use US cash and ask for $10-20 if you can spare it. (A5-20r)

★★★★★

ACCIDENTAL ART (50¢ from Doug Chapel Comics, 38 Reservoir St., Holden, MA 01520): "Art" composed of pieces of old newspaper spattered with ink. Looks like they probably used to be on the floor of the studio. Not especially impressive. (D-8)

★★★★★

ACROSS THE LINES Vol. I #II (Donation from Seeds of Peace, 2440 16th St. #241, San Francisco, CA 94103): Seeds of Peace is a group which provides logistical support for peace and related actions — porta-potties and water for the Nevada nuke test site actions, for example. This tells of past successes, future plans, and of course the omnipresent need for more support. (S-8t)

★★★★★

ACTION & DEFIANCE Spring-Summer 1989 (Donation from IMWU, PO Box 3266, El Segundo, CA 90245-8366): Newsletter of the international office of the International Music Workers Union, an alternative industry group. Most of the Spring issue is devoted to trying to sort out the recent charges and counter-charges among various union locals. There's also an uplifting "Free Music Means Free Speech" poster on the back. Summer lays out the activities of the folks involved on a wide variety of legal fronts and endorses numerous good causes. The main music connection is an announced boycott of "pay to play" clubs. (D-4r)

★★★★★

ACTION BULLETIN #22 ($25/yr from CCHW, PO Box 926, Arlington, VA 22216): The quarterly roundup of environmental and solid waste news from the Citizen's Clearinghouse for Hazardous Wastes. They're fighting everything from styrofoam to nukewaste to corrupt garbage haulers, and have helped a number of folks win their battles. Inspirational and scary at the same time. (S-20)

★★★★★

THE ACTION LINKAGE NETWORKER #29-32 ($50/yr or write for more info from 5825 Telegraph Ave. #45, Oakland, CA 94609): The support journal for members of Action Linkage, a group dedicated to bringing about positive social change. It takes a sort of watering hole approach, writing on what various members have been up to and encouraging others to get involved in worthwhile projects. #31 is a special issue based on writings that have appeared in the AL New Civilization Many-to-Many. (S-8t)

★★★★★

ADBUSTERS Vol. 1 #1 ($20/4 issues from The Media Foundation, 1381 Howard Ave., Burnaby, BC V5B 3S2, CANADA): These folks want to challenge corporate TV advertising — by putting their own, alternative messages on the air. Unfortunately CBC has rejected many of their ideas as "too controversial", but they're forging ahead. This magazine looks at the prevalence and perniciousness of advertising, examines some particular issues (forestry, pollution, national debt) and talks about how to get on the air for under $2000. (S-72t)

★★★★★

AD INFINITUM #2 ($2 from Amy Moler-Booth, 210 Greenbrier Ave., Norfolk, VA 23505): A zine of Dr. Who fanfiction — that is, short stories written in the Dr. Who universe by people who enjoy the show. Given the nature of the show, they tend to be humorous, and rife with references to characters and things recognized by dedicated fans. Amusing stuff, and I'm looking forward to future installments of Amy's own killer rabbit story. (HL-20)

★★★★★

ADULT VIDEO NEWS May-July/Aug. 1989 ($34.95/yr from 8600 West Chester Pike #300, Upper Darby, PA 19082): This is primarily a trade journal, aimed at retailers of adult videos, although the dedicated viewer will find dozens of reviews here to help pick a steamy flick for the night. They also cover first amendment news, throw in special sections for gay films and various fetishes, and run a scoreboard of the top hits. Lots of softcore stills top off the package. In an amusing note, the July/August issue announced the release of a Batman adult takeoff. (S-74t)

★★★★★

ADVANCE ARTS Vol. 1 #1 ($5/yr from 750 Kalb St., Atlanta, GA 30312): A joint project of The Arts Exchange and the Atlanta Writing Resource center. They report on local events, keep track of support for local artists and writers, and run a few classes. Upbeat stuff. (T-12t)

★★★★★

THE ADVOCATE June/July 1989 ($1 from The Peace Farm, HCR 2 Box 25, Panhandle, TX 79068): The Peace Farm is right across the street from the Pantex nuke bomb plant, and the folks living there are putting their freedom on the line to try and stop their neighbors. Lots of news here about various CD actions, war tax resistance, peace networking, and other peace movement matters. (S-16)

★★★★★

AFA JOURNAL Apr.-May 1989 ($15/10 issues from PO Drawer 2440, Tupelo, MS 38803): The newsletter of the American Family Association, a rabidly anti-porn group led by Head Censor wannabe Don Wildmon. They mostly go after advertisers on shows they find offensive (i.e., ones that don't promote "family values") — this is the group of zealots responsible for Pepsi cancelling the Madonna commercial, for example. Narrow-minded trash. (S-24t)

★★★★★

THE AFFILIATE May-July 1989 ($2 from Peter Riden, 4322 Cleroux, Chomeday, Laval, Mtl, H7T 2E3, CANADA): A music networking magazine dedicated to publicizing everyone who doesn't get otherwise publicized. Peter makes space in his pages available to almost anyone and prints an extensive zine contact list in every issue. There's also individual columns and lots of color. More and more indie cassette artists are showing up too. (S-40t)

★★★★★

AFTER HOURS #3 ($4 from 21541 Oakbrook, Mission Viejo, CA 92692-3044): A magazine of "Dark Fantasy and Horror" that's pulled togther well over the course of the first three issues. Highlights of #3 are Susan Liev Taylor's "Boundaries", with a new look at purgatory, and the eerie "One-Armed Bandit" by Jeff VanderMeer, which ends with a nice twist. 13 stories in all, including one by Steve Rasnic Tem and an excerpt from the new Robert Dunbar novel THE PINES. (S-48t)

★★★★★

AGENDA Apr.-June 1989 ($15/yr from 202 E. Washington #512, Ann Arbor, MI 48104): An alternative community tabloid for the Ann Arbor area. They do a good job on the big stories, like Central America, and an equally good one on local struggles over civil rights, housing for the homeless, and so on. An interesting squabble is going on among environmental groups, one of which has been accused of being an industry front but still buys lots of ad space to explain itself in every issue. (T-12t)

★★★★★

THE AGENT #5 (IRCs or exchange from Nominal Agency, 46 Denbigh Street, London SW1, ENGLAND): This is the closest thing to a holographic fanzine I've seen: page upon page of fact and opinion which never quite states a purpose but all comes together to have one, reflected in every piece. The major thrust seems to be a critique of the modern information culture, with printing and advertising exciting interest — along with meetings, bars, unions, and the interpretation of texts. Idiosyncratically deep. (A5-64t)

★★★★★

AGOG #2 ($4 cash from Edward Leonardo Jewasinski, 116 Eswyn Road, Tooting, London SW17 8TN, ENGLAND): The ichor-dripping gentleman with the dagger on the front cover, screaming "Could I interest YOU in a Literary Magazine?" rather sets the tone for this work. Inside there are self-referential stories, overblown prose, poems which purvey an unhealthy sort of philosophy, and dark staring drawings. (A5-32r)

★★★★★

AIRGLOW #7 ($1/2 issues or The Usual from T.L. Bohman, PO Box 14, East Thetford, VT 05043-0014): A rather personal fannish zine, full of anecdotes about Terry's life and work and laundry phobia. There's also letters from quite a few SF fans. Calendars, the space age, and ambulance anecdotes are rather extensively discussed. Fun and relaxed. (S-19)

★★★★★

ALASKA METAPHYSICAL COUNCIL NEWSLETTER Apr.-June 1989 ($12/12 issues from PO Box 9-3006, Anchorage, AK 99509-3006): These folks maintain an extensive list of New Age and similar services in the Anchorage region, and publish this monthly newsletter that runs from astrology to Yoga. May features a somewhat odd poem, "Ode to the Alaskan Oil Spill". June has a page of networking from the new age side of the peace movement. (S-12)

★★★★★

ALBANY JOURNAL #13 ($13/25 issues from 279 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12206): A collection of satire, humor, and current events. Political cartoons are one big part of their stable (lots of Ayatollah and Red China stuff here), as are strips like Bizarro and Sylvia. But there's also written work, ranging from Hunter Thompson to breakfast cereal reviews. Thoughtful and funny at the same time on its best pages. (S-16t)

★★★★★

THE ALBANY REVIEW Vol. III #1 ($15/10 issues from 4 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12210): A rather upscale-looking tabloid that still maintains a good sense of humor — publishing, for example, a tally of useless press releases recently received. They're into the whole arts and literary scene, printing short stories and art reviews and chatting with a bunch of folks around town from Judith Weinman to James Howard Kunstler. They actually manage to make this area look impressive and happening. (T-52t)

★★★★★

THE ALCHEMIST REVIEW Spring 1989 ($3 (?) from Department of English, Sangamon State University, Springfield, IL 62793-9243): This is one type of zine I don't see too often: the traditional college literary magazine. This one is distinctive in its use of excerpts from longer works to give a taste for the style of its authors, rather than attempting to constrain stories into the space available. Most of the prose is very descriptive and realistic, with Greg Randle's "Some Good Advice" being most moving. The poetry takes wing to more fantastic pastures, while still retaining connections with the world. Not flashy, but pretty solid. (S-80)

★★★★★

THE ALEMBIC #1 ($5 *CASH*/4 issues from PO Box 547014, Orlando, FL 32854): A new anarchist zine that seems primarily dedicated to no-holds-barred attacks on a variety of sacred cows: voting, feminism, traditional civil disobedience, the family, and more. Bob Black's "Feminism as Fascism" leads off, followed late by Lawrence Livermore on the coming food crisis and an anonymous essay, "The Power of Negative Thinking". (HL-20t)

★★★★★

ALL ABOUT BARBRA #16 (£26 IMO *ONLY* from AB Publications, 17 Adrian Place, Peterlee, Co. Durham, SR8 5SR, UK): A Barbra Streisand fan magazine. Having said that, there's not much else to say. Heavy paper, lots of trivia, tons of photos from 1963 to the present, and appreciative articles make up the bulk of what's here. For true fanatics only. (A4-30t)

★★★★★

ALLEY OOP #6 ($2 or swap from PO Box 5164, Moray Place, Dunedin, NEW ZEALAND): New Zealand music coverage right from the source, so you can skip all the confused roundups in the US indie press. The main feature is album reviews, though there are also bits of news and an interview with Shayne Carter of the Straitjacket Fits. Other groups noted here include Plagal Grind, Terminals, and Chris Knox. (S-24)

★★★★★

ALL WAYS FREE Winter 1989 (Donation from PO Box 3481, Madison, WI 53704): The paper of the Rainbow Family — probably the most successful experiment in alternative society around. Tens of thousands of people get together and live in harmony for a week each year, working by consensus & donation. Sure, there are problems, but this issue has lots of hopeful news, especially about easing pressure from Forest Service cops. Send what you can, since they're perenially broke. (T-16t)

★★★★★

ALPDRUCK #1 (Contact Orlando, Bahnhofstr. 4, 4132-Muttenz, SWITZERLAND): An international collection of art in a sort of new wave vein. Lots of aliens and monsters and gore and skulls with roses and businessmen repressing the people and other underground themes, mostly done in full page drawings with lots of detail. I would say half a dozen IRCs for a copy, but Orlando says he's suspending publication, so you should check on availability before sending anything. (A4-40)

★★★★★

THE ALTERED STATE Vol. 5 #3-4 ($2 [*NO TRADES*] from Laura Secor, 525 W. Prospect Ave., State College, PA 16801): A high school underground paper with a wide variety of contents. They print the same sort of silliness we used to in our HS underground, but that's just part of it. There's also serious opinion pieces, poetry, artwork, and even a bit of history. #3 has a retrospective of the various changes here since it was founded in '84. (L-18)

★★★★★

ALTERNATIVE PRESS #18-20 ($3 from 2820 Mayfield Rd. #303, Cleveland Hts., OH 44118): New music coverage in a sexy oversized slick color-cover newsprint format with a concentration on folks who are already pretty well known in the alternative community. #18 has Robyn Hitchcock on the cover, and inside are Throwing Muses, Laibach, Alien Sex Fiend and lots of others including, for some reason, Kiss. #19 headliners are Mojo Nixon and Xymox, while #20 has Flaming Lips, My Dad Is Dead, Bad Brains, and more. Jack Rabid does a fun gossip column too. The straightforward story and review format wastes no energy. (O-74t)

★★★★★

ALTERNATIVES Vol. 16 #2 ($22.50/4 issues from Faculty of Environmental Studies, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ONT, N2L 3G1, CANADA): A magazine of environmental news and views which takes a break from being serious in this issue. Sure, there are still news bits, and the letter column deep/social ecology debate continues, but mostly this is a "Green Humour" issue. Nuclear war, meeting process, disposable items, and movement seriousness all come in for a few digs. (S-56t)

★★★★★

THE AMATEUR COMPUTERIST Vol. 2 #2 ($5/4 issues from R. Hauben, PO Box 4344, Dearborn, MI 48126): A basic computer newsletter directed at shop floor workers and others who are generally not given the opportunity to learn to program. They print a mix of labor news, computer history, and ideas on how to get used to computers. Their audience includes both hardware hackers and beginning programmers. (S-12)

★★★★★

AMBIENT STORMTROOPER REVUE Vol. I #5 ($2 from Dumb Artists Collective, 172 Chestnut St. #209, Springfield, MA 01103): A collection of media images from the Incas on forwards. These artists seem to be packrats of culture, seizing on the development of the alphabet or the Challenger disaster as raw material for their collages. There's also some prose cut-ups, short stories, bizarre sheet music and other off-the-wall things. (S-28)

★★★★★

AMERICAN FORUM Vol. 5 #11-24 ($4.95/6 months from 154-158 Ludlow St., New York, NY 10002): This long-running zine is anchored by two things: the satirical news from Yossarian Universal and the "Homo Patrol" comic series from Tom Roberts. They also publish contacts for outrageous phone services, weird cult zines, and other goodies from time to time. #17 features an essay by G.X. Jupitter-Larsen. (S-3)

★★★★★

AMERICAN LIBERTARIAN Vol. 3 #11-12 ($2 from 21715 Park Brook Dr., Katy, TX 77450): An overall view of the libertarian movement in the United States, mostly as exemplified by the Libertarian Party. Indeed, most of #11 is taken up with a depressingly funny report on the Byzantine political maneuverings at the latest LP NatCom meeting. (T-8t)

★★★★★

THE AMERICAN RATIONALIST May/June 1989 ($1 from PO Box 994, St. Louis, MO 63188): 34 years of freethought and still going strong. They manage a lot of articles on historical freethinkers as well as current commentary. Every issue also features book reviews as well as sometimes heavy-handed critiques of religious belief. (S-16t)

★★★★★

AMERICAN RECONSTRUCTIONIST Spring/Summer 1989 (Free from PO Box 3418, Iowa City, IA 52244): A Christian Reconstructionist newsletter which sees satire and cynicism as part of its calling, helping to puncture some big names in the movement. The best part about them is their bizarre tracts, from "Legalize the Murder of Wives" to one arguing that government employees are thieves and should be treated as such. (S-8t)

★★★★★

THE AMERICAN SENTINAL #455 ($87/yr from 325 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20003): "Your Inside Report on National Defense, Foreign Affairs and Internal Security" — that is, if "you" happen to be pretty far to the conservative side of things. Most of this issue is devoted to blasting Gorbachev and anyone else who things the USSR might be changing. Filled with hints on actions to take, from boycotting MasterCard (for letting the Russians tie in to the system) to getting reports from other conservative writers. From the address, this is probably Unification Church backed. (S-8)

★★★★★

AMERICAN WINDOW CLEANER #16 ($6 from 27 Oak Creek Rd., El Sobrante, CA 94803): A trade journal for people in the window cleaning industry. This issue tackles the problem of what insurance you need, along with all the usual features: product reviews, trade association news, and of course the "Window Cleaner of the Month". (S-24t)

★★★★★

AMERICA'S AT OUR DOORSTEP Vol. II #1-4 (Available for stamps from Dennis W. Brezina, 4566 Solomons Island Rd., Harwood, MD 20776): Dennis runs a bed-and-breakfast and at least some of this centers on the business and its peculiar problems. But there's also poetry, an advice columns, ideas for interesting pranks, a continuing story with plants as the main character, and letters from a Bushman. Rather offbeat and enjoyable reading. (S-6)

★★★★★

ANALYSIS July 1989 ($10/yr from Philadelphia Objectivism Association, PO Box 454, Springhouse, PA 19477): A small Objectivist newsletter (Objectivists are, loosely speaking, followers of Ayn Rand). This issue is split between an attack on the evils of national health insurance and a defense of Any Rand which goes on to attack Murray Rothbard. (S-6)

★★★★★

THE ANARCHIST AGE #1 ($14/2 issues *CASH/IRCs ONLY* from Anarchist Media Institute, PO Box 20, Parkville 3052, Melbourne, AUSTRALIA): The new incarnation of the anarchist periodical LIBERTARIAN WORKERS BULLETIN. Now it's in magazine format and is mostly heavy-duty articles addressing the prospects for actual change emanating from the anarchist movement. There's also an extensive list of international contacts — about the best I know of. (A4-38t)

★★★★★

ANARCHY #19 ($1.50 from C.A.L., PO Box 1446, Columbia, MO 65205-1446): The ambitious attempt to become a vital newspaper for the anarchist movement is moving along well here. This issue the theme is "Children's Sexuality", a topic often shunned even in anarchist circles. But the numerous articles on this subject are still flanked by international anarchist news, sensible press reviews, thoughts on biocentrism and "Earth First", and a feisty letters column. Looking good. (T-32t)

★★★★★

ANCIENT GRANDMA SECRETS #2 ($1 *Cash/Stamps* from Libby Gilbert, PO Box 11405, Eugene, OR 97440): Music and more from the Pacific Northwest. Libby listens to stuff like Green on Red, Flaming Lips, Swallow, and Zebra; there's a great review of a live Flaming Lips show in this issue. She also puts in some psychedelic art, clippings, White Boy poetry, and little fantastic short stories and essays on life. Very personal and fun. (S-14)

★★★★★

AND SHE SAID #8 (SASE from Amy Kayne, 2200 Grand Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55405): Live music coverage from the Minneapolis club scene. A lot of folks have come out of that town to relative fame, so this might be worth keeping an eye on. Besides live reviews they have notes on who's been up to what, inscrutable feature articles having little to do with music, and club schedules. (L-6t)

★★★★★

ANGLE #6 ($2 from Bill Kunkel, 89-06 Woodhaven Blvd., Woodhaven, NY 11421): A wrestling newsletter done in comic form. Bill caricatures all sorts of figures from the business, and letters in his commentary on recent matches, books, the sport as a whole, or whatever. A nice change of pace, and smartass besides. (S-8)

★★★★★

ANGRY JOE HAMPTON'S MOSQUITO MAGAZINE Apr.-May 1989 (50¢ (?) from David Wellen, PO Box 2355, Southampton, NY 11968): A mix of pretty poor comics, lyrics, reporting from a tropical explorer, and reviews. Vacuums are the main fascination here, whether the musical group of the same name or the comic on the subject. (D-6)

★★★★★

ANICHTI POLI #19 (IRCs from Pouloupoulou 45, GR-11851, Athens, GREECE): A Greek-language magazine of alternatives and resistance. #19 includes an article on the Illuminati, a long appreciation of Abbie Hoffman, and lots more. There's a very Sixties feel to it all, multi-colored layouts and an easygoing attitude towards building a new culture. (A4-32)

★★★★★

ANIMAL RIGHTS

Here's a few zines devoted primarily to this topic, or to closely related ones like vegetarianism. I'm not going to try and include everyone with an article about these subjects, just those that have them as a main topic.

•**THE ANIMALS' AGENDA** May-July/Aug. 1989 ($22/10 issues from PO Box 6809, Syracuse, NY 13217): A wide-ranging and large journal of animal rights, vegetarianism, ecology, and other related topics. Their roundup of news and events is especially timely and valuable. The June issue looks into modern chicken factory techniques and gives lessons on what to do if you find an injured animal. July ranges from a Berke Breathed interview to a look at past instance of movement infiltration. (S-60t)

•**THE CIVIL ABOLITIONIST** Vol. 1 #2 ($1 (?) from Civitas, PO Box 26, Swain, NY 14884): A roundup of animal rights and anti-vivisection news from all over. It's presented in a no-frills manner, with lots crammed into every issue, and always has more stories about the worthlessness of animal testing to use as ammunition. (S-8r)

•**CIVIS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION REPORT** #5 ($2 from Civitas, PO Box 26, Swain, NY 14884): This one comes from Hans Reusch, who represents the strongest medical (he's a physician) position against vivisection: he says it's lousy science, in all cases. In addition to pressing this point, he also prints much dirt on what other animal welfare societies are up to, as he thinks they're suppressing his ideas to be more politically acceptable. (S-12t)

•**DOING WHAT I CAN** #4 ($1 (?) from Michelle D., 4433 Pershing #202, St. Louis, MO 63108): Along with commentary on the area's punk music scene (in poor shape, according to the writers here), this one is mostly reprints on animal rights, to bring that message to a new audience. Slaughterhouses, medical research, vegetarianism and product testing are a few of the areas covered, in pretty basic style. There's also an interview with One-Dimensional Man, a band whose philosophy includes vegetarianism. (S-22r)

•**MAINSTREAM** Vol. 20 #1-2 ($12/yr from PO Box 22505, Sacramento, CA 95822): A well-done journal from the Animal Protection Institute, a group active on many fronts in trying to save animals from fear, pain, and death. They report in chatty articles about activities by a number of animal welfare groups. #20 covers mustangs, zoo animals, leghold traps, gorillas, and more. Membership in the API is $20 per year. (S-38t)

•**OTTERWISE** Summer 1989 ($4/4 issues from PO Box 1374, Portland, ME 04104): This one is directed at kids aged 8-13, hoping to raise them to respect other animals by early humane education. They publish short stories, activities, recipes, and some streamlined factual pieces about things like zoos. A nice effort. (S-8t)

•**PETA NEWS** Vol. 4 #4 (Donation from PO Box 42516, Washington, DC 20015-0156): Newsletter of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, a hardcore animal rights group that leads very public battles. This issue has more on stopping the fur trade plus a special section on animal exploitation by tourists, from myna birds at hotels to carriage horses in New York City. (S-18t)

•**SACA NEWS** Vol. 5 #2 ($7/3 issues from SACA, PO Box 15588, Washington, DC 20003-0588): Newsletter of Student Action Corps for Animals, a group dedicated to supporting students who are vegetarians or anti-vivisectionists. The movement to dispense with dissection in high school labs is certainly growing, as they report on numerous victories in this issue. A good source of news on student rights as well. (S-12t)

★★★★★

THE ANTI-FED REPORT Jan. 1989 (Donation from CTAF, 325 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20003): The publication of the Committee to Abolish the Fed — the Federal Reserve, that is. It's real professionally done, and almost makes their dark warnings about the Trilateral connections of the Bush administration and the nefarious schemes of the central bankers sound sensible. (S-4t)

★★★★★

ANR UPDATE Vol. 8 #1 ($25/yr from 2054 University Ave. #500, Berkeley, CA 94704): The quarterly newsletter of Americans for Nonsmokers's Rights. They are quite active in pushing anti-smoking legislation (indeed, much of the content focuses on laws and courts) as well as in anti-smoking education. Did you know world cigarette production passed the five trillion mark in 1987? (S-6t)

★★★★★

ANTHOLOGY 1989 ($3 from Cafe Armageddon, 2008 Oxford, Austin, TX 78704): A literary collection with a nice look and feel to it. Highlights include some poetry snippets from David Jewell, editor Wayne Alan Brenner's story "If You Try Sometimes", and a comic strip by Liam Brooks that goes from silly to sillier. A mix of innovative and traditional works with a youthful feel. (L-26)

ABOUT APAS

"APA" stands for "Amateur Press Association". Think of them as cocktail parties in print. Every apa has a central person who does the mailing. Members write whatever they want, make an agreed-on number of copies, and send them to this person, who then collates sets together and sends them back as the final apa. Costs are covered by each member paying for their own printing and postage. Many apas will sell you a sample copy so you can see what they're like, but the bottom line is that this is participatory publishing, so if you aren't interested in contributing, don't bother to get in touch. And most apas won't trade for other zines, which is one reason I only list a dozen or so out of the hundreds that are out there.

★★★★★

APA CENTAURI #53-54 ($5 from Al Stern, 227 Taylor Rd., Paramus, NJ 07652): A rather large and active general-interest apa, with many members displaying their cretaivity through artwork, stories, or poetry. There's also plenty of mailing comments, thoughtful essays, apa history, and an overall sense of fun. A mostly young and active bunch of friends by mail. (S-259)

★★★★★

APAEROS #18-19 ($2 from John and Kathe Burt, 960 SW Jefferson Ave., Corvallis, OR 97333): An apa for sex, relationships, and kindred topics. Contributions range from poetry through stories (both Penthouse-letters style and longer) to discussions of incest. Wide-open to almost any contribution, and populated by generally sensible people. (D-32r)

★★★★★

APA-TAROT #40-42 ($2 or so from Sheila Wilding, 17645 Via Sereno, Monte Sereno, CA 95030): For those fascinated with Tarot cards and associated things, from the I Ching to astrology to whatever, this amateur press association may be just the thing. A lively readership swaps tips and tricks, prints pictures of new and obscure decks, and generally has a good time. (S-102)

★★★★★

APEC NEWS #40 ($2 (?) from 114 Court St., Abingdon, VA 24210): The publication of the Appalachian Peace Education Center. This is a special issue, devoted to the coal mine strike against Pittston in Southwest Virginia. It's a different angle on the news, giving us mostly the story from inside the coal-mining families, and it presents the miners' side with both sympathy and depth. Worth a look at. (S-16)

★★★★★

APPALACHIAN EARTH FIRST! Beltane 1989 (Donation from Ernie Reed, PO Box 309, Nellysford, VA 22958): A bioregional newsletter from an Earth First! grouplet which seems to be more into information than activism at the moment. This may be contributing to keeping the stridency level down. If you live anywhere nearby, their notes on endangered species and dioxin contamination will be of interest. (S-6t)

★★★★★

ARGONAUT 14 ($3 from Michael Ambrose, PO Box 4201. Austin, TX 78765): A rather infrequent zine of fantasy & horror that is well worth the wait. Only 3 stories here, but they're all carefully crafted. Al Manachino tells the tale of a murder on a world where no one an no thing ever really dies, Charles Saunders gives us a legend with an African flavor, and Dale Hammell finds something new to say about a vampire. Nice artwork and a few poems too. (D-52t)

★★★★★

ARMED CITIZEN NEWS #200 ($6/yr from NAKBA, PO Box 78336, Seattle, WA 98198): The newspaper of the National Association to Keep and Bear Arms, a group dedicated to preserving our right to own guns. They seem to be running more opinion and feature articles as the move towards gun control heats up; #200 is full of analysis of the Purdy shootings in Stockton. (T-12t)

★★★★★

ART & TEXT #30 ($6 from Flatland Distribution, PO Box 2420, Fort Bragg, CA 95437-2420): A serious Australian journal of arts criticism and history, imported to this country by Flatland. #30 includes articles on the virginal image of Venice, complete with comments on the Madonna video; a look at the development of a "moral discourse" in the early American cinema, and some history of the portrayal of Marie Antoinette in the popular press of the time. Lots of book reviews and some gallery listings close the package. (S-106t)

★★★★★

ARTPAPER Vol. 8 #9-10 ($18/10 issues from 119 N. 4th St. #303, Minneapolis, MN 55401): Ostensibly a community arts paper, and indeed they list plenty of openings and grants and so on. But they also reach out much more widely, with a these for every issue. In #9 it's ecology, with Jennifer Sells on the ecology/feminism connection, a cute map of Minnesota's ecology, and a packet of Gurney seeds. #10 has a batch of people recommending lowbrow summer reading. (T-32t)

★★★★★

ARTS AND BUSINESS QUARTERLY Vol. 1 #7 (Donation from Prince George's Arts Council, 6611 Kenilworth Ave. #215, Riverdale, MD 20737): A serious newsletter of the arts and their patronage. They're mostly interested in putting local artists in touch with funding sources, from their own grant program to external sources. (S-6t)

★★★★★

THE ASHEYA TIMES Vol. 1 #1 ($5 *CASH* & Age Statement from The Gynecocrat Alliance, PO Box 440002, St. Louis, MO 63144): Named after the queen in H. Rider Haggard's classic "She", this is the newsletter of a new support group for submissive men and dominant women. There's not a lot of content in the first issue, but it did include a pamphlet with hopeful plans for the future. (S-2)

★★★★★

ASYLUM Vol. 5 #1 ($10/4 issues from Greg Boyd, PO Box 6203, Santa Maria, CA 93456): A small and enjoyable literary magazine headed "The Beginner's Guide to Insanity". Most of the stories and fragments in this issue are about or related to dreams, giving the authors free rein to produce, in many cases, nightmares. Among the contributors are Don Webb, Thomas Wiloch and Joel Dailey, who compresses modern life into a dialogue between lawn and aluminum siding. (D-40t)

★★★★★

THE ATLAS #1-2 ($1 from Nancy Lebovitz, 400 Wollaston Ave. C6, Newark, DE 19711): A newsletter for students of the Alexander Technique, one particular means of bodywork — that is, a way to learn how to move your body better. Nancy is interested in strengthening the community of practitioners and in having some fun, and it looks like she'll succeed in both. (S-11)

★★★★★

THE ATROCITY Vol. 13 #5-7 ($8/12 issues from Hank Roll, 2419 Greensburg Pike, Pittsburgh, PA 15221): A special interest group newsletter from Mensa, focusing on silliness and humor (although there is an unprecedented serious editorial in #5). Office humor, bumper stickers, silly stories and sick jokes make up most of the contents. (S-18)

★★★★★

AT THE CIRCUS WITH WAYNE BRANCH (75¢ in stamps from 11842 N. 30th Pl., Phoenix, AZ 85028): A collection of primitivist drawings from Wayne, chronicling a sort of alternate-reality circus. I will admit to being amused by the "Tomato and sniper rifle vendor" picture. (D-16)

★★★★★

ATTICUS REVIEW #17 ($12/4 issues from 720 Heber Ave., Calexico, CA 92231): A challenging work of "Poetry Fiction Graphics & Criticism". Most of this issue falls into what Bob Grumman calls "experioddica" and others have called experimental this or that. Poems appear than vanish into chopped pieces of paper. A supermarket receipt is enshrined as art, as are computer graphics and letters typed without forming words. It makes my head ache to watch this disintegration of language, yet it's exciting to see fragments of meaning peeking around the corners. (S-40)

★★★★★

ATTITUDES OF CONTRADICTION #8 ($1 from Analen Villar, PO Box 187, North Hollywood, CA 91603): Analen likes getting friendly mail too so write a nice letter when you order this music zine. The big features this time are interviews with Chumbawamba and Bobby Steele of the Undead. There's also a batch of reviews and some interesting collages, as well as odds and ends of emotion and opinion. (D-32)

★★★★★

AURA DEMO 5 (IRCs (?) from Postbus 61012, 1005 HA Amsterdam, HOLLAND): A nice-looking Dutch journal with a variety of curious articles. These include a new translation of Bob Black, part of Bucky Fuller's OPERATING MANUAL FOR SPACESHIP EARTH, and some new physics about the possibilities of wormholes in space. Also includes comics and a wee bit of poetry. (A4-24t)

★★★★★

BABEL #14 ($1 from Glenn Wilkins, 605 13th St., Knoxville, TN 37916): For the first time BABEL has opened up its pages to art from its many correspondents, continuing their explorations of xerox as an art form. these submissions appear together with copies of the envelopes they appeared in, giving substance to the idea of the mail art network. (S-36)

★★★★★

BABY CONNECTION NEWS JOURNAL Vol. 4 #5 ($18/yr from PO Drawer 13320, San Antonio, TX 78213): Birth stories and the latest medical and social news on babies. They're an especially good source for the latest on infant development, offering advice on appropriate activities for various ages. (T-8t)

★★★★★

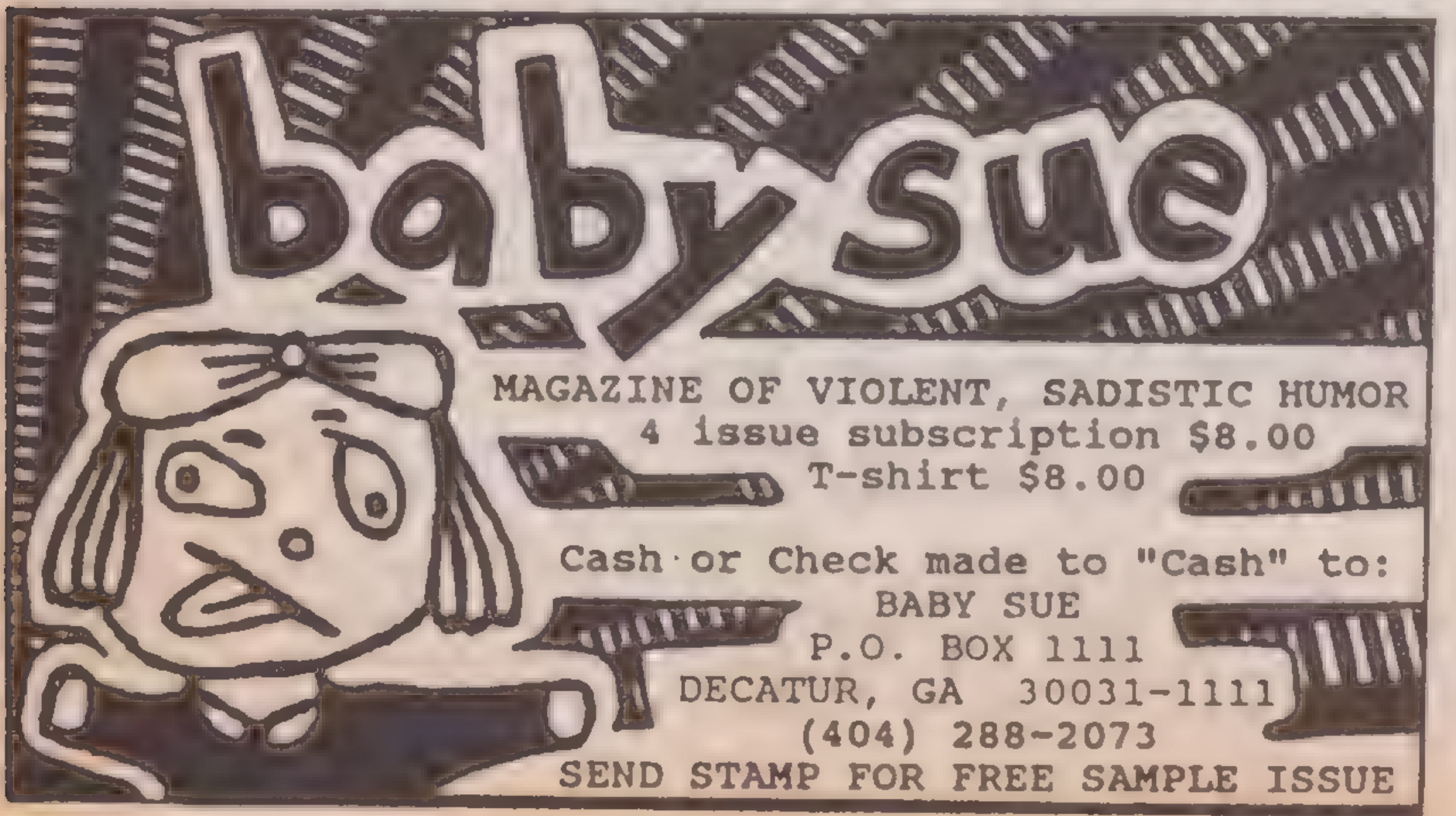
BACKLASH May-July 1989 ($1 (?) from 4128 Fremont Ave. N., Seattle, WA 98103): Coverage of the Seattle music scene, with intelligent reporting and interviews with batches of bands you haven't heard of yet. (Exceptions in May include Screaming Trees). Weather Theatre makes the cover, and inside are names from Pitbull Babysitter to Daddy Hate Box. The June issue is entirely about Oregon bands, leading off with The Obituaries. (T-8t)

★★★★★

BACK TO PAGAN'S HEAD #2 ($2 "plus stamps or cool toys/items" from Pagan Kennedy, 14 Farrington Ave., Allston, MA 02134): It's only fair to send neat stuff, as this zine of modern culture and a strange life comes with little toys and trinkets of its own (including a tiny magnifying glass in my copy) and a back cover entirely made of sticker stock. Inside, there's Pagan's Jeopardy fantasy (illustrated by Fitz), letters, and a lot of retrospective longing for the Partridge Family. (S-16)

★★★★★

BAD ATTITUDE #3-4 (SASE from PO Box 11589, Detroit, MI 48211): These folks have a bad attitude about "the state, capitalism, racism, and sexism", and the focus here is on actions designed to protest against those and similar abuses. They publish a calendar of events as well as notes from fights going on against such Detroit innovations as gentrification and garbage incineration. I see this as a hopeful sign that the Revolution is waking up again. #4 has reporting from Reclaim the Test Site II and news on some recent women's activism. (HL-4t)



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BAD HAIRCUT #2 ($4.50 from PO Box 6631, Kent, WA 98064): A rather unattractive (apparently reproducing direct from manuscripts) literary magazine, heavy on the poetry but including a few other things, like a play attacking the death squads. There's a lot of social consciousness in the pieces here, whether they be opposing the "justice" machine or promoting peace or hoping for the environment. Plenty of chaff, but there's enough wheat to make the reading worthwhile. (D-124r)

★★★★★

BAD NEWZ #11 ($2.75 from Bob Z. c/o Sarris Bookmarketing, 125 E. 23rd St. #300, New York, NY 10010): Another wild collage of music and lowlife culture. Dozens of reviews, the best of which are Bob's own rants about live shows. Lots of weird marginalia. The current news on the New York Poster Police and the effort to get them declared unconstitutional. Blowout poetry and lots of Ace Backwords cartoons fill out the package. (S-56)

★★★★★

BAD SEED #3 ($2 (?) from PO Box 646, Cooper Stn., New York, NY 10003): A zine devoted to juvenile delinquents and the literature, both fact and fiction, surrounding them. The main feature this issue is a rundown on the life of Charlie Starkweather. There's also a special section on female JDs. If you like MURDER CAN BE FUN, you'll like this. (D-28)

★★★★★

BAD TOAD #2 (Free from PO Box 6431, Champaign, IL 61826-6431): A music zine that's being given away for free, apparently to help out the local scene. They're punk-centered, but wander off into industrial and experimental stuff, especially in the record reviews. Interviews include Mr. T Experience, Naked Hippy, and ID Under. (S-38)

★★★★★

THE BAG #27-28 (SASE & a personal note from 28313 58th Ave., Paw Paw, MI 49079): More rambling ramblings that slip into making sense every once in a while, but then realize what they're doing and snap out of it. The musical content is high, but so is the humor index. You should know that #27 comes very close to reviewing the editor's socks, which sound very much like my own. (S-4r)

★★★★★

BALANCE REPORT #62 ($25/yr from Population-Environment Balance Inc., 1325 G St. NW #1003, Washington, DC 20005): This group has found the thing to blame for all the world's ills: overpopulation and the resulting development. While I sympathize with this point of view, I also suspect we could rape the environment just as well with a lot fewer people. Also, like most such groups, they want to close the borders to most immigration so at least America can get to a stable population. (S-8t)

★★★★★

BALCONY OF IGNORANCE #1-2 (One 25¢ stamp from Claude Bottom, 55A Centennial St., Seabrook, NH 03874): Claude seems to think people will enjoy his personal ramblings, and I think he's right. The first issue is made up of an intro plus two loose essays, one on CDs versus vinyl, and one on the bathroom's place in society. Nice writing, at the right price. #2 has music reviews and a collection of messages found scratched on record albums. (S-7)

★★★★★

BALLAST Vol. 4 #2-3 (2 stamps from The Art Academy of Cincinnati, Eden Park, Cincinnati, OH 45202): The title is an acronym for "Books Art Language Logic Ambiguity Science and Teaching". Basically, this is a collection of witty excerpts from other works, ranging from the autobiograpy of Powys to the RE/SEARCH "Pranks" edition. It's a bit reminiscent of THE PRAIRIE RAMBLER, and makes good bathroom reading. (S-8t)

★★★★★

BANG! #19 ($1 from Rocco Cipollone, 77 Newbern Ave., Medford, MA 02155): A music zine that covers a fairly wide range of groups: Live Skull, Penelope Houston, Big Stick and the Pandoras are among those in the current issue. Rocco also has some fascination for the female form, as evidenced by the chat with exploitation flick actress Linnea Quigley and the various photos scattered about the zine. (S-26)

★★★★★

BANZAI #30 ($1 (?) from PO Box 6555, Kansas City, KS 66106): A free music tabloid with a difference, that being that it's devoted entirely to heavy metal. And midwest heavy metal at that, which you would consider a minor market — except that all these pages are full of stuff. Lots of local band news, some advice for aspiring musicians, schedules and ads. (T-16t)

★★★★★

BARE IN MIND Vol. 17 #1-4 ($3 from PO Box 368, Perris, CA 92370): "A Nudist News Service", with a mix of articles from Southern California, the rest of the country, and the rest of the world. Most of this is news from various nudist and naturist resorts, but they also print opinion pieces and some legal notes. Full of places to go and strip down. (T-20t)

★★★★★

BASEBALL DIARY Vol. 8 #1 ($15/season from William Fuller, 3042 6th Ave., Sacramento, CA 95817): Back for the new baseball season and as interesting in life as ever. This issue starts out sort of downbeat, with a rambling essay from John Marsh on Abbie Hoffman and Pete Rose. Other correspondents discuss movies, television, and yes, even baseball. Crazy collage covers. (S-12t)

★★★★★

THE BASEMENT FILE (*Trade ONLY* from 1991 Madison St., Eugene, OR 97405): A reprint of what may well be all three issues of THE BASEMENT, which appears to have been an underground paper composed by someone of roughly high school age. It's main feature seems to be cat death stories and other juvenile humor. (S-14)

* * * * *

BAYOU LA ROSE #30 ($1 from Arthur J. Miller, 302 N. J St. #3, Tacoma, WA 98403): An anarchist publication with strong ties to the labor movement, since Arthur is a worker himself (something of an anomaly in today's youthful movement of hippies & students). Lots of struggle here, from Leonard Peltier to the Hyundai strike in South Korea to Big Mountain. A voice for the oppressed. (T-16)

* * * * *

BEATLEFAN Vol. 11 #4 ($2 from PO Box 33515, Decatur, GA 30033): A fan magazine for folks who are still in love with the Beatles. It's mostly current news rather than nostalgia, though there is a page for collectors and an interview with Alistair Taylor, who was heavily involved with Apple Corps among other projects. Oddly, most all of the news is about Ringo and Paul; I know John is dead but what happened to George? (S-34t)

* * * * *

BEAT SCENE 6 (Inquire from Kevin Ring, 27 Court Leet, Binley Woods, Coventry CV3 2JQ, Warwickshire, ENGLAND): "The Magazine of American Literature, Music and Film in the U.K.", this one is centered on the Beats and their stylistic descendents, although they case a rather wide net — a basic history of RE/SEARCH in this issue, for example. They publish mostly critiques and bibliographies, though some original work is included. Burroughs, Rexroth, Rickie Lee Jones and Philip Whalen all get major attention here. (A4-32t)

* * * * *

BEHIND THE WALLS #1 ($1 (?) or, I presume, free to prisoners from 5 Star, PO Box 4167, Halfmoon, NY 12065): The newsletter of the Prisoners' Anarchist Network At Large, a new prison support group. They're interested in following up on cases of abuse in prisons, as well as publicizing activities and magazines of interest or use to prisoners. Lots of contacts and news shorts. Also available is the P.A.N.A.L. BULLETIN which focuses on particular cases — in the current issue that of Michael J. Stotts. (S-11t)

* * * * *

BEN IS DEAD #4-5 ($1.50 from PO Box 3166, Hollywood, CA 90028): A music zine which puts most of its emphasis on live show reviews — fortunately, being Hollywood-based, they have a lot of good shows to cover (this seems to be changing, as recent issues are more diverse). Interviews in #4 include Chemical People and Bulimia Banquet. They also print crazy little short-short stories. #5 has Steel Pole Bathtub, Deathride 69, and 3 pages on animal rights. Subscriptions include the short BEN IS GOD newsletter with current news. (S-32t)

* * * * *

BETWEEN THE LINES #7 ($1 (?) from Erik Kosberg, 3013 Holmes Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55408): This was meant to be a bagazine but not enough people contributed, so Erik dredged up some largely anti-authoritarian theoretical texts instead. These include Ivan Chtcheglov on the New Urbanism, Joe Hoppe on living dangerously, Boy Igor on the decadence of science, and Gerry Reith on his lack of love life. A mixed bag. (D-18t)

* * * * *

THE BIG FISH ($1 from Sparrow, 322 E. 14th St. #23, New York, NY 10003): This is ostensibly a poetry magazine, and in fact it even contains a few poems. But the bulk of the contents are little notes from around the world of people's hat sizes. This may be some sort of conceptual art, but if so I missed the concept; surely there are less opaque ways to say people are all people? Oh yes, the poems are about hats and hat sizes too. (D-40)

* * * * *

THE BIG RED RAG Vol. 2 #2 (45¢ *large* SASE from 108 Schuyler Place, Ithaca, NY 14850): A feminist paper put out by a collective centered on the Cornell community. They represent a variety of viewpoints and are not afraid to critically examine institutions like Take Back the Night along with things like sexual harassment. #2 features a report from some Brigadistas who went to Nicaragua, birth control and abortion, and much more. A strong set of voices. (T-16t)

* * * * *

BI-LINES Vol. II #3/7 ($15/yr from 3900 W. Oasis Dr., Tucson, AZ 85741): The newsletter of the Brandlen Institute, a New Age center. They report on teachings channeled from the Master Z, pluss print columns on crystals, nutrition, fitness, Tarot, color thereapy, and more. A wide variety of healing and peacemaking arts pop up here. There's also a regular column from Swami Beyondananda for the humorous touch. (S-16t)

* * * * *

BITCH #24 ($15/12 issues from San Jose Face, 478 W. Hamilton Ave. #164, Campbell, CA 95008): A feisty music zine by and about women. #24 has the second part of Lori Twersky's "Smashing Cinderella's Slippers", a lengthy examination of the stereotypes and hangups governing interactions between men, women, and rock; a look at Kerista and their Joan Jett fascination; and a Kim Gordon interview. There are also a batch of shorter features, photos, and even some color in this issue. (S-64)

* * * * *

BLACK EYE #6 ($1.50 CASH from 324 E. 9th St., New York, NY 10009): An anarchist journal that always has a freewheeling mix of subjects, from people not caught in all the old theoretical boxes. #9 includes Bob McGlynn on East-West activism, Paul Simons on play, animal rights, a critique of sociology (by Cohn-Bendit, from '68), and lots more. There are also detourned comics and other artworks to break up the words. (D-36r)

* * * * *

BLACK ON BLUE #7 ($3/4 issues from PO Box 15875, Fort Wayne, IN 46885-5875): A music zine devoted to the Fort Wayne scene, with local club listings and schedules and a musicians' bulletin board section. Pete has also started a small mail-order service, with music from folks like Rattail Grenadier and Girl's Can Touch. (D-22r)

* * * * *

BLITZKRIEG #5 ($2.50 from PO Box 312, Chelan, WA 98816): Power-packed heavy metal music coverage that tends towards the speed and thrash side of the genre. King Diamond, Metal Church, Exodus and Ratt are probably the biggest names here, but literally dozens of other bands are featured as well. Short interviews, long record reviews, cool photos and live coverage make for a jam-packed bargain package. (D-68r)

* * * * *

BLOOD TIMES Vol. 1 #6/7 ($1 from Louis Paul, 44 E. 5th St., Brooklyn, NY 11218): A zine for the aficionado of horror films. This is a special double issue, devoted to the films and career of little-known Italian director Dario Argento. It seems to be well-researched and comprehensive. (S-14)

* * * * *

THE BLOOMSBURY REVIEW Vol. 9 #2-3 ($14/6 issues from 1028 Bannock St., Denver, CO 80204): A rather intellectual review of books (not the sort you'll find in here, but real mass-market stuff) that nevertheless manages fun reading in spots. In part that's because they vary from straight reviews, interviewing authors like James Lovelock as well as folks in the publishing business. Noam Chomsky and Douglas Adams speak in #23. Better than what we get in the local papers, that's for sure. (T-27t)

* * * * *

BLUE LETTER May 1989 (Donation from The Riehle Foundation, PO Box 7, Milford, OH 45150): A newsletter inspired by visions of the Virgin Mary which have occurred at Medjugorje, Yugoslavia. It's much less sensationalistic and much more gently religious than the similar ROSES (see below) — perhaps reflecting different cultural values from those on Long Island. (S-4t)

* * * * *

BLUE LIGHTS #22 ($6 from Lil Sibley, 4945 "U" St., Sacramento, CA 95817): This one comes from Spotlight Starman, a group trying to get at least the old episodes, and preferably some new ones, of Starman back on the air. In addition to being a good source oof info on the show and dealing with the entertainment industry, and a fan club, they're also an interesting study growing a consensus-based, task-oriented organization. Pretty impressive commitment. The $6 price is for the double-sized issues they're going to put out starting this fall; or they'll send you #22 and #23 for that price. (S-36)

* * * * *

BLUEPRINT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE Apr.-June 1989 (Donation from Loyola IHR, Loyola University, Box 12, New Orleans, LA 70118): A monthly series of position papers and investigative reports on various social justice topics. The May issue takes another look at the problems of bringing peace to Central America. June examines the income distribution in America in some detail, highlighting the growing gap between the rich and the poor. (S-8t)

* * * * *

BLUE SUEDE NEWS Vol. 3 #1 ($5/4 issues from PO Box 25, Duvall, WA 98019): This music zine is recently revived from the dead, with a new tagline: "House Organ of the Church of Rock and Roll!" The contents are much the same as always, concentrating on the classic rockers and those following in their footsteps. #1 includes a long interview with Dave Shriver, who used to play with Eddie Cochran. (S-16t)

* * * * *

B METANEWS #1 (50¢ (?) from PO Box 3361, Charlottesville, VA 22903): A new attempt to break through the dulling sameness of the corporate media and present a few tidbits of unusual news. This includes music reviews, some basics on "brain machines" (with references) and the political situation in the Philippines. Produced under Share-Right to encourage reproduction. (S-4t)

* * * * *

THE BOB #36 ($3.50 from PO Box 7223, Wilmington, DE 19803): Still-growing music coverage that's usually in the major indies orbit, though it does get around a bit (witness their continuing obsession with Aussie rock, for example). Viva Saturn, Giant Sand, Galaxy 500, Brian Wilson and lots more here, together with tons of record reviews. There's also a flexidisc that leads off with a decent Lime Spiders cut before getting into duds from Laughing Hyenas, Nikki Sudden, and Bevis Frond. (T-64t)

* * * * *

BOOK DEALERS WORLD Vol. 10 #3 ($16/yr from ABE, PO Box 2525, La Mesa, CA 92041): A quarterly produced by the American Bookdealers Exchange. The main thrust is to help the self-published author market her or his wares through cooperative ventures. They also offer varitious dropshipped and wholesale books for dealers to buy or add to their catalog. Looks potentially useful, but I would tread warily. (S-40t)

★★★★★

THE BOOK OF GOLD #2 ($2 or The Usual from Jeremy Crampton, 302 Walker Bldg., University Park, PA 16802): This is a serious science fiction zine dedicated to the works of Gene Wolfe, who of course has made quite a splash in this field. In this issue Jeremy continues his exegesis of **SOLDIER IN THE MIST**, and a number of readers write in with new comments of their own. (S-20t)

★★★★★

THE BOOK READER Vol. III #3 ($20/6 issues from 942 Market St. #611, San Francisco, CA 94102): A review of new books, mainly from university and small presses. They arrange them by topics, from the West to Writing to Computers to Spiritual matters. A couple of hundred short reviews (longer than my zine reviews but shorter than my book reviews) are packed into each issue. (T-28t)

★★★★★

BOOKS ARE EVERYTHING #7-8 ($5 from R.C. & Elwanda Holland, 302 Martin Dr., Richmond, KY 40475): Paperback collecting is getting more popular all the time, and the Hollands are experts in the field. This classy journal prints checklists and feature articles, as well as single-page features on various rare books. #7 includes features on Jim Thompson and Dashiell Hammett, as well as advice on setting up a DBMS to track your collection. #8 ranges from H. Beam Piper in paperback (with a photoreproduction of his own notebook listing sales) to sexual James Bond takeoffs. Lots of lurid cover reproductions. (S-56)

★★★★★

THE BOSTON REVIEW Vol. XIV #3 ($20/12 issues from 33 Harrison Ave., Boston, MA 02111): A journal of rather intellectual culture, chiefly reviews of various works and previews of what's coming on the Boston and national arts scenes. They also feature articles like Marshall Berman's analysis of the images of urbanity in this issue, or the look at political writing from Latin America. (T-28t)

★★★★★

BRAKE FLUID #1 (50¢ from PO Box 24376, New Orleans, LA 70184): A new music zine that seems mostly dedicated to badmouthing the local scene, and indeed most of alternative music (although they did find good things to say about Half Japanese and Volcano Suns). The hand-scrawled look gives it just the right feel of near-psychotic ranting fury. (D-8)

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★★★★★

THE BREITENBUSH NEWSLETTER Vol. V #2 ($4/yr from PO Box 578, Detroit, OR 97342): Combination news and schedule from this retreat and intentional community out in the Northwest. They play host to a lot of New Age seminars and workshops and retreats, and also make space available for visitors who just want to get away from it all and try something new. More news of their fight to save old growth timber in this issue, as well as personal changes. (S-32t)

★★★★★

BRICK #3 (CASH donation from 151 1st Ave. #7, New York, NY 10003): Subtitled "Art is a Weapon", this one features writings, photos, collages and drawings with political or social import. It's not limited to the US resistance, but includes things from overseas, including a t-shirt cartoon that can land you 60 days in the slammer in Israel. Innovative voices of resistance. (D-48)

★★★★★

BRICK #2 (SASE from PO Box 1153, Russellville, AL 35653): A small anarchist newsletter that is explicitly directed at those who want to engage in "direct action". They list targets, give cautions on security, and highlight a few cases of oppression. Also available is the editor's essay "Civil Disobedience vs. Direct Action: A critique of anarchist actions and concerns". (L-2)

★★★★★

BSIDE June/July 1989 ($4 from PO Box 1387, Fort Washington, PA 19034): Pure and simple music coverage that concentrates on spotlighting new semi-big bands. They line up 16 of them in the June issue, including Sonic Youth, That Petrol Emotion, Dinosaur Jr., Alien Sex Fiend, Danielle Dax and Electric Love Muffin. Varied music reviews and a few live bits round out the issue. (T-50t)

★★★★★

BUF-O Vol. 5 #2/3 (*TRADE ONLY* from Klaus Haisch, 1729 E. Tabor St., Indianapolis, IN 46203): Klaus writes about whatever has attracted his attention in popular culture and the media. This issue continues his marathon project of summarizing and rating all the Twilight Zone episodes. He also prints a few pages of Jeff Smith's PROTECTORS comic and an absurd cover pun. (S-10)

★★★★★

BUILDING ECONOMIC ALTERNATIVES Summer 1989 ($1 from Co-op America, 2100 M St. NW #310, Washington, DC 20063): A quarterly magazine for those concerned with applying their spending money to making a better world. Grassroots economic ideas such as boycotts get lots of play, as do articles about structural issues — farming in this one. They can also put you in touch with lots of socially responsible businesses. (S-32t)

★★★★★

BULLSHIT MONTHLY #19-20 (50¢ from 175 5th Ave. #2589, New York, NY 10010): A mostly handwritten music zine, except for the lengthy interviews (in #19) with a couple of anti-racist skinheads. It seems to be mostly NY-centered hardcore info, with bits of tour news, reviews, and notes on things worth listening to or making fun of. (S-8)

★★★★★

THE BURNING BUSH #11 (95¢ from Route #1, Hwy. 23, Mineral Point, WI 53565): A music zine which is primarily directed towards Christian rockers. They don't review exclusively Christian music, but there are such influences in the work of every band they talk to. Rage of Angels is the lead story here, followed by plenty of reviews including a fair percentage of metal. (D-15r)

★★★★★

THE BURNING WORLD #10-11 ($2 from Incendiary Publications, PO Box 210095, San Francisco, CA 94121-0095): A literary zine whose publisher has transplanted from East Lansing to SF. The focus is on writers and poets with a strong voice and something to say with it, folks like Bukowski and Lenihan and Arthur Winfield Knight who do the job and get out. I'm not sure individual issues are still available, but a complete set may be had for $25. (S-21)

★★★★★

BURP NEWS Apr. 1989 ($1 (?) from Bill Ridgely, 7430 Gene St., Alexandria, VA 22310): The publication of Brewers United for Real Potables, a group of homebrew beer enthusiasts. They seem to be a friendly group, and their newsletter is full of tidbits about beet, as well as recipes for new and wonderful homebrews. They also have lots of meetings and tastings. (S-12t)

★★★★★

BUSHWACKER Vol. 18 #6-7 (50¢ from Fred C. Davis, Jr., 3210-K Wheaton Way, Ellicott City, MD 21043): 209 issues old, this is one of the longest-running zines I've seen lately. It's devoted to postal Diplomacy and variations thereof — Diplomacy, for those of you in the dark, is a board game based on the maneuvering between countries around WWI. Fred gives us news of the hobby, runs a couple of games himself, and slips in opinions on China, gun control, and whatever else catches his interest. Incidentally, Fred tells me there are about 100 Diplomacy zines in the US; you can find more of them reviewed in his pages than in mine. (S-10)

★★★★★

BUSHWHACKER #1 ($1 from Jason McGill, PO Box 23, S. Gardiner, ME 04359): A new music zine that wants to find out if there's any hope for a punk scene in Central Maine. Jason chats with members of Underdog and Manic Depression and reviews a heap of records and other publications here. Small but feisty. Also includes some bits of animal rights and political comment. (D-28r)

★★★★★

BUTT RAG #5 ($3 from peter Margasak, PO Box 14724, Chicago, IL 60614): The center ring here is still Peter's own music reviews, deconstructing the latest indies with a style like being bludgeoned to death. Oh sure, he likes some things, but it's more fun to read his sneering at the other ones, and there are pages and pages of them. Interviews include Mudhoney, Sun Ra, and Better Than Death. A bit hard to get into, but get started and you won't put it down. (S-102)

★★★★★

BUZZ #42-44 ($1 from PO Box 3111, Albany, NY 12203): There's a whole mess of colleges around here, and I suspect a lot of students get their music info from this constant presence on the scene. Lots of reviews of both live and recorded performances anchor it, along with interviews of whoever's in town: Live Skull in #42, with a Pixies feature too. Steve Albini and the Dharma Bums pop up in #44. (S-38r)

★★★★★

BVI-ALBANY #1-3 (50¢ to $1 from C. Goldberg, 80 Trinity Pl., Albany, NY 12202): A new lighthearted addition to the BVI publishing network. Subtitled "Black Coffee", it has stories of grouchy vegetarians in restaurants, an account of the worst day anyone has had in a long time, and speculations on replacements for the term "boyfriend". Seems a bit uncertain of itself yet, but doing fine so far. (D-4r)

★★★★★

BVI-GREAT LAKES #8 ($1 from Ann LeRoy, PO Box 4843, East Lansing, MI 48826): Collaged backgrounds with personal writing over the top. In this issue Ann discusses the dumbest thing she ever did in her life, as well as attending a big Native American event. The latter leads into thoughts on ethnic pride vs. white pride and why one seems more acceptable than the other. (S-12t)

★★★★★

BVI-PACIFICA JOURNAL Vol. II #4 ($3 from Yael Dragwyla, PO Box 45792, Seattle, WA 98145-0792): A mainstay of what's left of the BVI network, this issue leads off with a history of that very project by founder J. LeRoy. There's also a selection of Aleister Crowley's thoughts on magick, an astrological analysis of last November's elections, and reprints from marginals as diverse as Feral Faun and Waves Forrest. (D-45r)

★★★★★

BVI-PACIFICA NEWSLETTER Vol. IV #4 ($3 from Yael Dragwyla, PO Box 45792, Seattle, WA 98145-0792): The lighter side of the Pacifica wing of BVI, this one features mostly fiction and other literary outpourings. These range from dark fantasy to Walt Phillips' poetry to a future Qabala from outside our solar system. Strange newspaper clippings lighten the margins. (D-44r)

★★★★★

BVI'S SPITTLE & PUKE #36 (50¢ from PO Box 4843, East Lansing, MI 48826-4843): A zine which appears to have no point except perhaps to offend with the gratuitous male nudity on the cover. The entire issue is devoted to the uncredited story "When the Redsox Played on Yom Kippur", about a conflict between Judaism and baseball. (S-4t)

★★★★★

CALIFORNIA MILITARY MONITOR #3 ($12/6 issues from PSC, 22B View St., Mountain View, CA 94041): The publication of the Pacific Studies Center, a public interest research group that keeps tabs on military activity in the state of California. This issue has lists of the top military bases in the state, a rundown on DoD prime contracts, and notes on the military airspace control congesting travel by air around LA. (S-8t)

★★★★★

THE CALIFORNIA REVIEW Vol. VIII #5 ($15/6 issues from PO Box 12286, La Jolla, CA 92037): A conservative newspaper from the University of California at San Diego which calls out "Join Us In The War of Ideas Against the Entrenched Liberal Establishment". They not only pick on the student lefties, but on modern architecture, music, and the dangerous pinko tendencies of George Bush. (T-16t)

★★★★★

CAMPUS REVIEW Apr.-May 1989 ($5/yr from 336 S. Clinton #16, Iowa City, IA 52240): A conservative college paper that remains in high spirits despite being hated by a whole batch of people on their campus. The April issue seems to be more homophobic than usual for some reason. The June issue has the usual news, thoughts on rape awareness, and a nasty parody of the **DAILY IOWAN**. (T-16t)

★★★★★

CANADADAPA #4-5 ($1 from Colin Hinz, 349 West St. N., Orillia, ONT L3V 5E1, CANADA): An amateur press association "for dadaists and the terminally silly". Silly drawings, silly texts, silly Worldcon bids and other nonsense coexists happily with accidental art and hand-drawn pieces (the copy count is still pretty small). Several pieces of yarn show up in #5. Participation is earnestly invited. (S-23)

★★★★★

CAN WE NEWSLETTER #36-37 (Donation from PO Box 2152, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814): An anti-nuclear newsletter from a group surrounded by places like the Hanford weapons reservation and the Idaho nuke research lab. They act to network "Downwinders" and activists together, and push for no new construction, no food irradiation, and other hardcore causes. (L-2)

★★★★★

CAPRA #78 ($2 from Marc C. Reed, PO Box 18293, Milwaukee, WI 53218): An apa for film fans and critics — there is a pretty high level of serious discussion here, though there are playful members as well. Current flicks, trivia, late-night TV moving and more come together here in a friendly atmosphere. (S-64)

★★★★★

CARGO CULT Vol. 2 #3 ($1 (?) from Allan Clark, PO Box 1415, Stn. H, Montreal, QUE H3G 2W4, CANADA): A magazine of industrial, experimental and other noisy music. Featured artists in this issue include SPK, DXM, and Shub Niggurath. There's also a manifesto from G.X. Juppiter-Larsen and a few pages of reviews.

Specialized and well-done. Allan asks that you not put the zine name on the envelope due to postal troubles. (S-18r)

★★★★★

CARIBBEAN NEWSLETTER Vol. 9 #2/4-5/7 ($10/yr from Friends For Jamaica, PO Box 20392, Park West Finance Stn., New York, NY 10025): A roundup of mostly political news from the Caribbean, focusing on Grenada and Jamaica. They publish "newsbriefs" from all over the region as well as political analysis and notes on the conditions in various countries. (S-16)

★★★★★

THE CARING CONNECTION Vol. 5 #5-7 ($2 from Phyllis Burns, 3060 E. Bridge St. #342, Brighton, CO 80601): A newsletter for caregivers, those taking care of handicapped or chronically ill relatives. They offer tips about the latest technology to make this easier as well as medical and legal developments. They're also active in developing a support network so people in these situations realize they're not alone. (S-8)

★★★★★

CATALYST KOMICS #60 (TRADE ONLY from John Rininger, PO Box 129, Dekalb, IL 60115): A collection of photos processed via photocopier. Some are clear on first glance; in others the subject is apparent after puzzling over for a moment; perhaps even a majority remain simply odd shapes and lines on paper, resisting all analyses. Bodies and structures seem the main fascinations. (S-42)

★★★★★

CATHARSIS MONTHLY #1-2 ($1 (?) from PO Box 3181, Suffolk, VA 23434): A new large-format tabloid of alternative culture. In the first issue, they review some pop music, hit some television, put plenty of column inches into opinions of local radio (mostly bad), and even review a movie or two. There's also a comic and short story. #2 has a long article on Michael Hurley's albums and an appreciation of Bailey on WKRP. Not much focus, but generally enjoyable. (T-12t)

★★★★★

CATHEDRAL OF INSANITY #6-7 ($2 from Julie Luce, 1216 W. Ivesbrook, Lancaster, CA 93534): A yarn-bound collection of short stories and short poetry. Some of these are by folks from the underground scene, some penned by John Lennon (presumably reprinted). There's a slight tendency towards morbid silliness, but no real strong unifying theme. (D-12)

★★★★★

THE CATHOLIC WORKER Vol. LVI #2 (25¢/yr from 36 E. First St., New York, NY 10003): The main paper of the tendency that has sometimes been called "Christianarchy" — strongly Christian anarchy. They call for voluntary poverty, witness and other forms of volunteerism in the face of the overwhelming immoral state, and run many pieces of quiet resistance. (S-8t)

★★★★★

CAVEAT EMPTOR #18 ($4 from Cross-Country Communications, PO Box 4533, Metuchen, NJ 08840-4533): An excellent way to keep up with the current news on UFOs and related phenomena. #18 has two more pages on the MJ-12 case, a fascinating interview with the founders of **FATE** magazine and another with Timothy Beckley, and the latest on sonar probes of Loch Ness. Letters, book reviews and bits of news round out the package. (S-36t)

★★★★★

CCVL #2 ($3 *CASH* from Anthony Timpson, 1/19 Browns Ave., Marrickville NSW 2204, AUSTRALIA): Gore and splatter movie coverage from Australia, formed from the amalgamation fo two previous zines. This issue focuses on very low-budget films, leading off with a Roberta Findlay interview. Lots of zine and film reviews, and more enthusiasm than slickness by far. (A4-20r)

★★★★★

CEHSOIKOE #8-9 ($1 from John Porcellino, 1954 Brookside Ln., Hoffman Estates, IL 60194): A collection of writing and art from the underground. In #8 this includes a short story from Oberc, a fold-it-yourself booklet of Weinman's "White Boy" poems, Sigmund Weiss explaining one of his own poems, a disconnected comic centerfold, and more. #9 includes bursts from the subconscious from Bennett and Oberc and a comic from Julie Doucet. There's a willingness to stretch boundaries here, but also a solid anchor in traditional forms of communication. Also ask for your copy of **REINCARNATION** (free with order), a mini of artistic distortion. (D-30)

★★★★★

CELTIC FRONGE Vol. III #6 (Complimentary sampler on request from 6146 W. Giddings, Chicago, IL 60630): A newsletter of culture from the Celtic lands surrounding England. #6 has a longish interview with Robin Williamson, a modern-day bard, poetry, news bits, and an article on Celtic dance, among other things. (S-12)

★★★★★

CENSORSHIP NEWS #31 (Donation from NCAC, 2 W. 64th St., New York, NY 10023): Short updates on all manner of censorship going on in American society, from big-news cases like the flag burning and Rushdie to lots of local school board hassles. The National Coalition Against Censorship is into fighting these issues from a hardcore free-speech position, and I support them. (S-8t)

★★★★★

CFRA BULLETIN #77 ($1 (?) from Bob Kirlin, East 7609 Marietta, Spokane, WA 99212): A zine for the football fanatic, which is hardly surprising as it comes from the College Football Research Association. Much of it is pretty esoteric (like the 1955 weekly AP polls in this issue), but I got a few chuckles out of the article on the character of the various major conferences. (S-20r)

★★★★★

CHAIRS MISSING #5 ($2 from Scott Munroe, PO Box 375, Fairfield, CT 06430-0375): A music zine that's heavy on the interviews: Lisa Suckdog, Henry Rollins, Fugazi, Honeymoon Killers and more in this issue. There's also rather selective fanzine reviews, a few pages of music reviews, and designs for topical postage stamps ("20th anniversary of the Tate-LaBianca murders", that sort of thing). (S-40r)

★★★★★

CHANGING MEN #20 ($4.50 from 306 N. Brooks, Madison, WI 53715): Subtitled "Issues in Gender, Sex and Politics", this is a well-done journal exploring various facets of the new "men's movement". Topics in #20 include the masks of rape, the connection between fertility and virility, the variety of perspectives in the masculinist arena, and more. They also publish some poetry and regular reports on history, war, and other tough topics. (S-48t)

★★★★★

CHASING RAINBOWS #2/**THINK FOR YOURSELF** #12 ($2 from Paul Rutherford, 8 Lindsay Rd. (2f4), Leith, Edinburgh, EH6 4DT, SCOTLAND): Two zines in one package. CHASING RAINBOWS presents a special issue on sex and relationships, revolving around three lengthy anonymous interviews with young men from the margins, and a true abortion story. THINK FOR YOURSELF is more of a music zine, though it carries various bits of art and politics as well. This issue includes interviews with Roy Bailey and Wat Tyler. (A5-60r)

★★★★★

THE CHEESE REPORTER Vol. 113 #35 ($35/yr from 6401 Odana Rd., Madison, WI 53719): I'm only mentioning this "Bible of the Cheese Industry" to point out once again that there's a lot more small publications out there than most of us ever dream of. Published weekly since 1876, this has everything from spot prices for cheese to advice on how to sell the stuff in the face of the current fuss about dietary fat and salt. (T-12t)

★★★★★

CHOKEHOLD #11-12 (50¢ from Lance LeVine, 3113 S. Parnell, Chicago, IL 60616): A wrestling newsletter with a personal touch. Lance doesn't try to keep track of everything in the industry, only to comment on the matches he's seen and the folks he's talked to. The main feature in #11 is a longish interview with Cactus Jack Manson. In #12 he takes the time to condemn a couple of the more overpriced wrestling zines out there. (S-10)

★★★★★

CHRISTIAN ANTI-COMMUNIST CRUSADE Vol. 29 #9-13 (Donation from PO Box 890, 227 E. Sixth St., Long Beach, CA 90801-0941): Hardcore anti-communist ravings that takes time out to slam homosexuals as bad people quite often. #10 features a totally uncalled for slur on the character of the late Abbie Hoffman, protraying him as a dour dupe who was leading America's youth into "sin and suffering". #12 continues this theme, seeing Hoffman as some sort of programmed disciple of Marcuse, implementing the schemes of the evil Marx. (S-8t)

★★★★★

CHRISTIAN*NEW AGE QUARTERLY Vol. 1 #2-3 ($9.50/4 issues from Bathsheva's Concern, PO Box 276, Clifton, NJ 07011-0276): These folks are trying to bridge the gaps between Christianity and the New Age, respecting each but looking for a synthesis that doesn't do damage to either. Very sincere writing, from people who obviously Believe in things. Father John Groff, Jr., has a delightful article in #3, "The 'Things They Didn't Tell You in Sunday School' Department", which starts off with the evidence that Adam began life both male and female and goes on from there. (HL-16)

★★★★★

THE CHICAGO LITERARY EFFORT #1-2 ($1 from Edward Eigerman, 518 Second St., Brooklyn, NY 11215): These were published last year while Edward was at the University of Chicago, but he assures me he still has a closet full to send out for cash or swaps. They're basically a satirical college paper, with much phony history, pseudo-intellectualism (like the summer vacation papers from famous authors in #2), and in-jokes. I enjoy the deadpan humor that infuses these. (S-16t)

★★★★★

CINEMACABRE #7 ($4.35 from George Stover, PO Box 10005, Baltimore, MD 21285-0005): A relatively upscale "appreciation of the fantastic" in the movies. This includes a discussion of hte scenes cut from *Bride of Frankenstein*, interviews with actor Leslie Nelson and director Reginald LeBorg, and book and movies reviews. Features slick paper and lots of photos, many in color. (D-64t)

★★★★★

CINEMAPHOBIA #1-2 ($7/6 issues from PO Box 620, Great Meadows, NY 11365): This new film magazine sets its tone by leading off with a John Waters appreciation for the premiere issue. Other movies of interest to them are Pet Sematary, Return of the Swamp Thing, and Betaville — basically the whole spectrum of sleazy and independent movies. They're mostly into reviews, whether of the films themselves or the theaters you can see them in. #2 features an interview with the daughter of Moe Howard from the 3 stooges. (S-13)

★★★★★

CINEMONDO #5 ($1 from 915 Highland View NE, Atlanta, GA 30306): Movie coverage that runs from new mainstream releases down into semi-obscure videos. The idea is to find things the editors like and publicize them in a goodnatured way. It makes for fun reading, from the John Carpenter filmography to the list of flicks where James Dean had bit parts early in his career. (S-30t)

★★★★★

CIRCLE #2 1/2 (25¢ from Rob Winslow, 13611 Gragston Cir. #39, Tampa, FL 33613): A punk zine with about an equal mix of music and social consciousness. This issue has interview with No Comply and All, plus coverage of animal rights, rain forests and automatic weapons and the glorification of violence. (S-12)

★★★★★

CLASSIC TV #5-6 ($3 from 2980 College Ave., Suite 2 Box 25, Berkeley, CA 94705): A journal for the dedicated watcher of syndicated television shows. #5 leads off with a short appreciation of Father Knows Best, but the bulk of it is schedules for the various big cable networks, with details on which episodes will be on when. Shows covered include Dennis the Menace, Mister Ed, My Three Sons, The Untouchables, and about two dozen more. (D-46r)

★★★★★

CLAWHAMMER #2 ($1 & a stamp from c/o Krouse, RD #2 Box 166, New Castle, PA 16101): An "art-zine" which contains more than a selection of (often gruesome) underground art. In this issue they announce a new system of reviewing music to try to be more objective (bands should note they run free ads for music reviewed; get a copy to see the details). Also humor and short bursts of strange prose. (S-12)

★★★★★

CLIPOPHILIA ($1 in stamps from PO Box 5671, Portland, OR 97228): A collection of news clippings from various mainstream sources, focusing on the oddball side of the news: pit bull regulations, safe sex via the phone, exploding phone booths, customized gripe letters, strange legal rulings, plummeting ice cubes, and much more. Truth is stranger than the WEEKLY WORLD NEWS in some cases. (S-38t)

★★★★★

COALITION FOR PRISONERS' RIGHTS NEWSLETTER Vol. 14 #5-6 (Donation from CPR, PO Box 1911, Santa Fe, NM 87504-1911): A support group for folks in prisons around the country. They try to push for a more humane approach to justice, and to put people in bad conditions in touch with those who can help. The letters from inside constantly lead one to wonder at the insanity of those in charge. (HL-8)

★★★★★

THE COLLEEN FANZINE #1-5 & #A (SASE from Colleen, PO Box 24, Bristol, WI 53104): A personalized fanzine — at least the numbered issues are original typed manuscripts, not copies. #A is photocopied and will probably be the one going out to respondents, but I suspect Colleen will write to anyone who shows some interest. She rambles on about life and work and Pizza Hut and soda pop and whatever else crosses her mind. Obviously she's looking for folks to write her, and it wouldn't hurt to send a few stamps or a donation. (S-2)

★★★★★

COLLIDE-O-SCOPE May 1989 ($1 (?) from 2140 Shattuck Ave. #2200, Berkley, CA 94704): An alternative paper based in the Berkeley community. They look at Abbie Hoffman's death and the anti-drug movement, as well as ecological catastrophe and the mental processes used to deny it. Typeset and pro-looking with a hilarious USA TODAY parody as the cover. (S-20t)

★★★★★

COLTSFOOT Vol. X #3 ($1.50 from Box 313A, Shipman, VA 22971): A small zine about wild plants — what to do with them, how to eat them, which ones have medicinal uses, and so on. #3 has an appreciation of the lily family, more notes on which plants have oxalic acid in them, and the usual letters and reviews. (D-22r)

★★★★★

COLUMBIANA Spring 1989 ($2 from Chesaw Route, Box 83-F, Oroville, WA 98844): A bioregional magazine from the Columbia River. It's sort of amazing that they manage to maintain a hopeful attitude among the nuclear plant proposals and herbicides and all the other things they report on. But they also talk about alternative energy and waste reduction and permaculture and the Green Party, so it's clear that folks are still out there fighting. This spring issue has a big section on current happenings in the forests. (S-95t)

★★★★★

COMICS

When I decided to collect all of the comics publishers in one place this issue, I didn't realize there were quite so *many* of them. Hope this gives you visual arts buffs someplace to start.

•2 HEADED DOG #6 ($2 from Erik Weems, 210 Carpenter Dam Rd., Hot Springs, AR 71901): Nice work from Erik and friends. There's a comic interview with Rico Aramburo that's loaded with silliness, some oddball superhero stuff, reviews of some minis, and some sketches of various folks. Very clean looking. (D-40)

•ACME COMICS #9 ($3.50 & Age Statement from Fandom House, PO Box 1348, Denver, CO 80201): A comics collection whose title is an acronym for Amateurs Cranks Malcontents & Eccentrics. This includes artist Smallhead, who is into medical gore, and an interview with spurious comics old-timer Steve Foley. (S-48)

•THE ADVENTURES OF HEAVY MENTAL #1 ($2 from Persistant Publications, PO Box 777, Evanston, IL 60204): Somewhat crude satirical comics poking fun at the Reagan administration and now the Bush folks. They're not above scatology or creepy sex to make their points, mainly that conservatives are creeps. Polemics for the masses. (S-36)

•ALL-MONSTER COMICS #2 ($1 from C&T Graphics, 14 E. State St. #1, Mt. Morris, NY 14510): One of a series of new releases from Tim Corrigan, this one features Tim's inking to Steve Keeter's story and Carl Taylor's art. It concerns the monster Graktarr, who comes out of a press in an unsuspecting printshop one fine day. Silly but fun. (D-12)

•ANGEL FUCK #3 ($2.50 & Age Statement from 519 Cleaveland Ave. SW, largo, FL 34640): Some of the most revolting artwork I've seen in a long time, in plot as well as execution. There is plenty of sick sex and gratuitous violence, drug strips, necrophilia, and similar topics. (S-50)

•ART AND JAKE #1 (25¢ & a stamp from S. Dorne, 250-9 Summer St., Plantsville, CT 06479): A minicomic by Tisch, featuring a pair of snails. They appear in a variety of single-panel cartoons, which often seem pointless, as the series where one of them sings bits of famous rock songs. (M-8)

•AUNTIE SOCIAL #1 (40¢ from Frank Lloyd Jr., PO Box 486, Richwood, WV 26261): A single-sheeter from Frank's "No Talent Comix". It features a cranky gal who prefers getting even to getting mad. Not much in the way of art or story here. (S-1)

•BARSTOW UNIVERSE #4 ($1 from Robin Reed, PO Box 1803, Manchester, CT 06040): A collection of strips with somewhat primitive artwork but amusing punchlines. Of course, they bribed me a bit by quoting a review from FF in a strip featuring negotiations over a team-up. I still like the slapstick dinosaurs better than Xanthan Gumm, the alien, though. (D-16)

•BIBLE BELT COMIX #1-2 (50¢ from Mack White, PO Box 49575, Austin, TX 78765): A comic featuring "Texas Mutants" of all stripes. The main feature in #1 has Rev. G.O. Daniels casting out the rock and roll demons from a young woman, in a broad parody of the usual Chick Comics idiocy. #2 has Adeline Bovine, a concerned cow fighting to remove porn from her community. (D-12)

•BIRD COMICS #5-7 ($1.50 from Hal Hargit, PO Box 95588, Seattle, WA 98145-2588): A specialized minicomic, dedicated to birds. These range from relatively serious art to anthropomorphized "funny bird" strips, with the weight on the side of humorous material. A fun little zine, and the theme holds it all together well. (M-40)

•THE BLOTTER #10 ($3 from Roy Tompkins, PO Box 16022, Austin, TX 78761): A lot of comic artists have a darker side screaming to get on to paper, and this is where 40 of them let loose with it. Charming themes like cannibalism, murder, cat-killings and rotting corpses run throughout this book, featuring a number of big names from indie comics. Gruesome, gory, and more than a bit amusing in a morbid way. (D-8)

•BODEENN...WANTED (75¢ from George Sulzbach, VA-304, NAS Alameda, CA 94501): This one leads off with the barbarian biker of the title, a mix of pointless dialogue and gratuitous nekkid wimmen. Then there are some other difficult to follow strips from the publisher. Not especially interesting. (M-8)

•BOLT #3 (50¢ & a stamp from Randy Crawford, 911 Park St. SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504-6241): A rather violent minicomic, featuring a superhero type and lots of gore and pain. The ending is dopey but that doesn't detract from the stunning graphic work, in red and black ink on deep blue paper. (D-8)

•BOOT HILL ZOMBIES #1 (50¢ from Mack White, PO Box 49575, Austin, TX 78765): A silly little Western story featuring a WC Fields lookalike who spills his voodoo hair resotrer in Boot Hill. As the comic continues, the dead come back to life, wreaking predictable havoc on the town. (D-12)

•CATFISH (50¢ from PD Wilson, 3720 17th Ave., Columbus, GA 31904): A downbeat mini with the usual incoherence of Wilson's comic efforts. The catfish do show up, on a catfish farm that may be taken as a metaphor for the decline of civilization if you really want to. (M-8)

•CHAPEL ZONE #43-45 (75¢ from Doug Chapel Comics, 38 Reservoir St., Holden, MA 01520): A mix of drawings and xerographic art, but with enough stories told in panel form to qualify as a comic. I don't know if Doug switched copy shops or what, but the pencil sketch lines show through the inking in these books, which is tremendously annoying. Elliptic little tales of monsters, love, mayhem, and the everpresent (but offstage) dancing penguins. (D-12)

•CHAVATSKY ($1 from Jon Lewis, 1420 E. Como Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55117): An anthology of comic work. The best thing here is J.L. Hart's "11 Things Only I Have Seen", a visual answer to Forteans. Also of interest is Peter Davies' work, apparently the ruminations of some insect on God. (D-16)

•CHEAP THRILLS #6 (50¢ from David Lee Ingersoll, PO Box 15082, Santa Rosa, CA 95402): David is one sick puppy; maybe that's why I like his minicomics so much. This one features an alien love story with a pretty gruesome ending twist, and a fake pro-vivisection ad that brings the snickers even when you know you shouldn't. (M-12)

•CHIAPA #30 ($3 from Maurice Forrester, PO Box 427, Syracuse, NY 13210): This is an apa for comics writers and artists who want to improve their craft by exchanging ideas and criticism. #30 features a stunning color laminated cover from Lance Brown. The membership is full right now so you might want to write before sending money.

•COMIC UPDATE #102-105 ($1 from Andrew Roller, 7602 Rush River Dr. #85, Sacramento, CA 95831): A long-running zine of independent comic review and opinion, now back in the hands of its founder. #102 discusses why Andrew is doing it again, with lots of commentary on the wacky world of Ian Shires. #105 is pretty laid back, featuring reviews by Lynn Hansen instead of the crusty editor. (M-16t)

•COMICS AND STUFF #2 ($1 from C&T Graphics, 14 E. State St. #1, Mt. Morris, NY 14510): More stuff than comics, actually. Most of this is personal recollections of Tim's life, centered on his first ventures outside of home and learning about the world and people. There are also reprints of some of his early artistic work. (D-16)

•COMIC TRASH #4 ($3 (?) from Fredy Engel, Unistr. 5, 48 Bielefeld 1, WEST GERMANY): This is more graphic arts than comics, though the styles vary a bit. Mostly a very punk look (indeed, some of these strips appear to be illustrated songs) with lots of stark pictures, drugs, sex, and other cheerful things, as well as alienting buildings. Quite stunning, with the captions in a mix of German and English. (A4-34)

•CRITTERS #39 ($2.25 from Fantagraphics Books, 1800 Bridegate Rd. #101, Westlake Village, CA 91461): A comic worth hunting up, as this time it's entirely given over to a full-length Fission Chips adventure by JP Morgan, who of course also does art for FF. Along the way the Chicken of Wrath pokes fun at a number of comics conventions — his interactions with the Middle-Aged Generic Mutant Tortoises are quite amusing. (S-24)

•DEMON HOUSE THEATRE ($1 from William Dockery, 2108 15th Ave., Phenix City, AL 36807): A revised reprinting of this minicomic collection, with five pages of new material. These strips are the most basic imaginable, talking heads crammed into microscopic panels and a soap-opera plot. No beginning, no end, and little point. (M-24)

•DEVIANT GESTURES #1-4 (50¢ from Donald J. Morrison, PO Box 562, Columbia Station, OH 44028-0562): A minicomic that's trying out a couple of different types of work to see what flies. So far the most promising is "Clown Gone Bad", which has gotten us from a kid's party to the origin of a new anti-hero. However, that strip is suspended as of #4 while Donald develops it into a musical. Meanwhile, he's expanded the panel size and devotes the whole issue to the problems of being a longhair. (M-8)

•THE DIGGERS Vol. 1 #3 ($1 from C&T Graphics, cd14 E. State St. #1, Mt. Morris, NY 14510): Nope, this Keeter/Corrigan collaboration is not about the historic anarchists but about a batch of superheroes still developing their powers. In this issue they break through a force shield surrounding the pyramid at Giza and meet a big enemy. In the best comics tradition. (D-16)

•DIRTY PLOTTE #6-10 ($2 for an assortment from Julie Doucet, C.P. 533, Succ. C, Montreal, QC, H2L 4K4, CANADA): Julie's mind is apparently often in the gutter — or at least her comics are. Drawn in an appealing primitive style, they feature topics like menstruation, death, mutilation, sex, toilet humor, and so on. Captioned in a mix of French and English and bound as minis or larger sizes as the mood and material dictates. An underground hit. (M-32)

•DISCIPLE #2 (60¢ from Chris Arnold, 4706 Mink St. SW, Pataskala, OH 43062): A somewhat outre comic that's a bit slow in getting off the ground — by the end of the second issue we still seem to be in the prologue. So far the major characters are a small town sheriff and a mysterious hermit in the hills who steals chickens and studies some sort of magic. (D-16)

•DUNGAR THE BARBARIAN #29-30 (60¢ from Ian Shires, PO Box 360921, Strongsville, OH 44136): #29 is an extra big issue celebrating the return of this minicomic after another round of staff changes. Dungar is back in the city, wandering around and being baffled, in a pause in the action. #30 keeps up the size while starting a new sea voyage. Meanwhile the sketchy Herman Hanks is tossed in as a backup feature. (M-24)

•EELGASTOE #2 ($1 from Shayne Hansen, 270 Azure Way #11, Miami Springs, FL 33166): Thoroughly juvenile comics. Shayne seems to be fascinated with bodily functions, sex and torture, and either doesn't recognize or doesn't care about the homophobia and misogyny in these strips. If the name "Fartman" appeals to you...this is the place to go. (S-16)

•EMERALD CITY COMIX & STORIES #9 ($5.25/yr from Nils Osmar, PO Box 95402, Seattle, WA 98145-2402): This issue is sort of lightweight, since half of it is taken up by ads for the cartooning classes that Nils teaches. On the other hand, there are still a few amusing strips, including work by Mike Tackett and Burt Dodson's "Nuke". (T-8t)

•EXIGUOUS #1-2 (25¢ & a stamp from S. Dorne, 250-9 Summer St., Plantsville, CT 06479): Single panels from Tisch, so small that 9 of them fit on a single minicomic page. They range from one-line gags to just simple sketched of the world and the people in it. Lightweight but fun. (M-8)

•THE FATHOS (50¢ from William Dockery, 2108 15th Ave., Phenix City, AL 36867): Dockery draws minicomics with 32 panels to the page. As you might surmise, this means the art doesn't show very much, and takes a backseat to the dialogue — which, however, is rather confusing, as if he knows the story but doesn't care if we do. Headache-inducing. (M-8)

•GUD #9-10 (Respectively 50¢ & $1.50 from Gubba Gub Comics, 1204 Jenifer St. #2, Madison, WI 53703): #10 is the special expanded "Origins" issue of this "puddy-headed giant" comic character. Gud is good-natured by a bit odd looking, like a melting blob of jello with legs. He's unknowingly involved in complex plots to overthrow the fast-food government of his gritty postindustrial world. (D-8 & D-20)

•HAROLD THE GREAT (50¢ from Scott Williams, 1326 Curtis Ave., Pt. Pleasant, NJ 08742): Basically a one-gag book featuring a geeky looking potbellied magician. He gets harassed on the job and one-ups his foreman in return. (D-8)

•HEIR OF THE DOG ($1.50 from Hal Hargit, Ozone Press, PO Box 95588, Seattle, WA 98145-2588): If you're a minicomic fan you probably know that Steve Willis has killed off his Morty Dog character. Well, you're not the only one who misses the cynical canine. This is a combination roast and tribute, with 15 or 20 artists submitting bits of Mortiana one final time. (M-52)

•THE HIGHLY UNLIKELY ADVENTURES OF MOE AND DETRITUS #4-5 (50¢ from David Lee Ingersoll, PO Box 15082, Santa Rosa, CA 95402): This one is getting stranger all the time. Moe and Detritus are sort of trendy street people, and they get involved in all manner of bizarre situations. The plot of the minicomic in #4 (such as it is) concerns the loss of Moe's overcoat at a fashionable party. In #5 the boys clean up post-party and trade repartee through an alcoholic haze. (M-12)

•JOE REDNECK #1 (25¢ & a stamp from Chris Vargas, 760 W. Lomita #145, Harbor City, CA 90710): This minicomic introduces Joe Redneck, a character who drives an American car (when it's running), drinks Coors, and loves Archie Bunker. No real point yet, but the character is certainly obnoxious. (M-8)

•KA-BLAM! #3 ($2 from C&T Graphics, 14 E. State St. #1, Mt. Morris, NY 14510): A collection of three serialized stories by different authors and artists. Of them, the best-looking is Jim Pack's "Phoenix", about a post-Vietnam superhero determined to restore American pride. (D-24)

•KARNO'S KLASSICS #30 (75¢ & Age Statement from Kjartan Anorsson, 1387 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, MA 02134): Animal comics with a difference, the difference being improbably large and much used sexual equipment. This issue is mainly illustrated one-liners ("Why does an elephant have four feet?" "Because eight inches isn't enough!"). There's also work from a couple of guest artists including Ed Zolna and Roberta Gregory. (D-32)

•KEEN ZEEN #1 (25¢ & a stamp from Chris Vargas, 760 W. Lomita Blvd. #145, Harbor City, CA 90710): A collection of (mainly) visual puns, like "Mother ship" and "Soap Opera". There's also a silly three-panel western comic. (D-8)

•KING-CAT COMICS AND STORIES #1-3 (65¢ from John Porcellino, 1954 Brookside Ln., Hoffman Estates, IL 60194): A collection of everyday comics and drawings: radio coincidences, frogs, men in dog suits, and bicycles all appear in the first three issues. There are also some free speech reprints, including the statement of that artist who put the flag on the ground. Fun. (D-12)

•L'ECHO DES CHANTIERS #1 ($1 (?) from Kurt Beaulieu, 4230 Pierre de Courbertin #5, Montreal, QC, H1V 1V4, CANADA): As near as I can tell from my knowledge of French, this is meant to be a participatory comic. It contains a set of rather angular and distorted drawings of people, and a SASE to send the altered copy back to the editor. Of course, he used a Canadian stamp, so it doesn't do a lot of good for folks in the states. Perhaps it's best to write and see what's going on first. (S-12)

•LIAM BROOKS #1 (50¢ (?) from Andrew Roller, 7602 Rush River Dr. #85, Sacramento, CA 95831): Considering where this came from, it's probably an attempt to stir up more trouble in the independent comics press. It portrays Liam as a rather unprepossessing artist, who gets in a dig back at Roller in his paintings. Weird. (S-9)

•MELODY #3 ($2.50 & Age Statement from Kitchen Sink Press, 2 Swamp Rd., Princeton, WI 54968): The "True Story of a Nude Dancer" continues in comic form. In this installment we see more of Melody's life as a 19-year-old free spirit, cheerfully loving her extended family, learning to shoplift, and otherwise escaping the confines of society. A second feature flashes forward to her actual dancing years. (S-32)

•MILK ZINE #1 (25¢ from Doug Chapel Comics, 38 Reservoir St., Holden, MA 01520): A small plug for milk as a good food, done in a new wave comics style. Pretty bizarre and a bit skimpy, but what do you expect for two bits? (D-4)

•MISC! #28 ($3.50 from HSC, 656 Birch Ln., Gilbert, MN 55741-9631): The biggest minicomic I've ever seen — over 100 pages thick in honor of their 5th anniversary. A lot of artists drop in to do special work, from Steve Willis to Matt Feazell, as well as a host of lesser-known names. Styles run from stick-figure to realistic, and there are plenty of chuckles here. (M-108)

•MR. COFFEE #1 ($2 from Scott Williams, Liquid Caffiene, 1326 Curtis Ave., Pt. Pleasant, NJ 08742): The origin story for a new superhero: Mr. Coffee, who in plain everyday life is Eugene Caffiene. He overdoses on super-toxic Mexican coffee beans and while in a coma is granted all sorts of super coffee powers. It's late night as I type this; I can relate. Nice art too. (D-24)

•MUDDVEIN #3 ($75¢ (?) from Joebob, 7055 E. 106th St., Fishers, IN 46038): A collection of single page drawings, this time focusing on the theme of "surreality". This leads to a lot of distorted bodyparts, Kathy Acker's dream tattoo, and some nasty snakes in the head. (D-16)

•MUMBLES #6 ($1 from John Eberly, PO Box 8312, Wichita, KS 67208): The first issue of this in four years, and worth the wait. This issue is made up of comics scripted by John and drawn by a whole batch of people. Includes nice work from margot, Mary Fleener, Bob X, the Pizz, and more. (S-24)

•MUTT #1 1/2-3 (25¢ (?) from Jim Conatser, 2174 Chestnut St. E, Des Plaines, IL 60018): A minicomic with a rather primitive artistic style and off-the-wall stories — as exemplified by Jim's continuing fantasy based in South Dakota. John E. and Liam Brooks contribute work too, and the whole is bizarrely cute. (M-8)

•THE NARCO-DABA DABA #10-11 (40¢ from Jon Lewis, 1420 E. Como Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55117): A pair of minicomics unified only by their title. #10 is "Tracks", a lesson in observing the mysterious by examining snow. #11 is "The Foetid Choir", a bit of overblown horrific ravings with nasty black pictures. (M-8)

•NICE DAY MINI-COMIX #10: CHANTILLY LACE (50¢ & a stamp & Age Statement from Randy Crawford, 911 Park St. SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504-6241): An illustrated version of the well-known Big Bopper song. It's only mildly risque until the last page, when it gets into all-out oral sex. (M-8)

•NIGHTSTAR #2-3 ($2 from C&T Graphics, 14 E. State St. #1, Mt. Morris, NY 14510): A superhero comic by Larry Blake that isn't the usual slog of crimefighting. Instead, Nightstar is a "synthohuman", created by a crackpot scientist to fight crime, who's busy trying to figure out her own place in the modern world with the help of some youthful friends. So far her worst challenges have come from the government and from previous attempts at superheroes by the same inventor. Sharp art & nice plotting. (D-28)

•NIRVANA NOW ($4 from Marc Arsenault, PO Box 2657, New York, NY 10185): Acid-soaked comics that don't make a whole lot of sense, at least not when you're not tripping. All manner of nonsense is scribbled here, much of it nasty and threatening or with a psychic bent. Features a wonderful color dripping-letter cover. (S-32)

•OUR SECRET MASTERS #1 (75¢ from Chris Arnold, 4706 Mink St. SW, Pataskala, OH 43062): A new science fiction comic series. This one introduces the premise: the aliens have taken over, they're keeping a low profile, most people don't know anything is wrong, and the resistance is a mess. Looks promising. (D-12)

•PEACE CORPSE #2 (75¢ from Doug Chapel Comics, 38 Reservoir St., Holden, MA 01520): I *think* this comic is about a souring relationship, but given Doug's new wavoid drawings style and determination to avoid actual facts it's hard to be sure. Anyhow, something deep and emotional is going on, with disjointed dialogue and cinematographic layouts. (S-7)

•PEEDOG ($1.50 from Marc Arsenault, PO Box 2657, New York, NY 10185): Probably an Age Statement would be in order here as well. This is an animal comic that is anything but cute — featuring much wallowing in just about any bodily fluid you can name, as well as pointless violence and crude sex. (M-16)

•PISSED-OFF COMIC #2 (30¢ & postage — but please write before sending money — from The Beguiling, 185 Harbord St., Toronto, ONT M5S 1H5, CANADA): A somewhat juvenile collection of comics that depends heavily on phallic symbols and, for that matter, phalluses, not to mention urination, for its humor. Comic fans come in for a little bit of an attack too. Off the wall. (HL-8)

•PSYCHOGENIC (50¢ from Scott Williams, 1326 Curtis Ave., Pt. Pleasant, NJ 08742): A hallucinatory comic adventure that is marred a bit by printing that doesn't capture the full detail of the wild pictures here. Reality, fantasy, hallucination; what's the difference? (D-8)

•RABBIT AND THE ANTS #1 (30¢ from Art Delano, 99 Marion St. #2, Somerville, MA 02143): A rather crude minicomic featuring characters that Art designed in the 2nd grade. There is a certain childlike charm here, in the rather pointless stories and outline drawings, but don't overestimate it. (M-8)

•RED (1 stamp from Scott Miller, PO Box 8531, Salem, MA 01971-8531): A small comic by Bill Quick, featuring a musclebound version of Little Red Riding Hood. This one doesn't have to wait for the woodsman for defense from the wolves; she's quite capable of blowing them away on here own. (D-8)

•RHAJ AND THE CRYSTAL PHOENIX #1-3 ($1.25 from Mystic Dreams, PO Box 27171, Seattle, WA 98125-1571): Rhaj is a warrior gal in some fantastic desert setting, who insists on wearing very few clothes despite the possibilities of sunburn and swordplay. In these issues she gets kidnapped and ogled, and some wizards get very interested in a dagger she found. Then she escapes on an airship, but her position remains precarious. Nice art, fast pace, but pretty hormone-pitched. (D-12)

•RIVER JOURNEY ($1 from Lawrence San, PO Box 2000, Brookline, MA 02146): A mini that's about halfway between comics and poetry. There's a text here illuminated by economically-drawn pictures, dealing with a nasty little nightmare that's linked to the "real" world before and after sleep time. I found it to be charming. (M-16)

•**ROWAN #1** (25¢ & a stamp from High Improbability International, PO Box 523, Columbia Station, OH 44028-0523): According to the publicity, this is a modern-day takeoff on Frank Miller's RONIN series — which may explain, I suppose, why it's so incomprehensible. New wave confusion. (M-8)

•**SCAB #2** (50¢ from Doug Chapel Comics, 38 Reservoir St., Holden, MA 01520): A story of a cop tangled in things he doesn't understand, told in dark and foreboding comics form. The ending is rather anticlimactic, but the premise is downright strange. (D-8)

•**SEATTLE YOU ARE HERE** ($1 from PO Box 594, Seattle, WA 98111): A somewhat tongue-in-cheek guide to Seattle for aspiring comics artists, done by Mark Campos and Bruce Chrislip. They get in some good-natured ribbing at both the comics community and the larger progressive arena, and do get across some useful facts while they're at it. The first minicomic guidebook I've ever seen. (M-16)

•**SECRET ARCHIVE #1** ($2.50 from Jason Cohen, PO Box 330896, Fort Worth, TX 76163): A collection of sick and violent art from various artists — somewhat reminiscent of ARTPOLICE but not as polished. Subjects include vagina dentata, the roots of evil in the city, and semen duels. (D-40)

•**SELF PUBLISHER!** Vol. 1 #2-5 ($1.25 from Ian Shires, PO Box 360921, Strongsville, OH 44136): The latest of a long line of zines devoted to news from the small press comics front. Ian hasn't attracted much interest or many subscriptions yet, and his wild claims that Tim Corrigan is laughing all the way to the bank in #2 aren't likely to make him many friends. He also badmouths COMICS F/X and Andrew Roller frequently, filling space between reviews. This tones down somewhat in #5, though he still keeps up the "I'm a professional and the rest of you suck" persona. (HL-12)

•**SIX HOURS OF THE DRIPPING LOOFAH...** Chapters 1-3 (75¢ from Jon Lewis, 1420 E. Como Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55117): A hilarious but rather confusing serial comic. It starts out with the end of the world, goes through a giant egg delivered from a pig, a superdog that breaks out of the pound, a doctor and a plumber who switch identities, and much more. Loose plot ends abound, but things are moving so fast it hardly matters. (D-12)

•**SLUM DOG COMIX #4** ($4 from Peter Sandmark, 5974 Waverly, Montreal, Que., H2T 2Y3, CANADA): The title strip, about a mongrel living with some 60's-leftover owners, is the best thing here. There's also plenty of rock music references on other pages, as well as some comics that are definitely underground — both sleazy and nearly pointless. Sex and cats both feature, though not on the same pages. (D-36)

•**STAN CARROTT IN TO PARANOIA AND BACK AGAIN** or **STAN & YOKO THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS** (50¢ & a stamp from S. Dome, 250-9 Summer St., Plantsville, CT 06479): Stan is a talking carrot, and Yoko is a TV set that grows legs and an interesting personality. Together they end up in a world where all the people are sedated and the android cops are after them. Somewhat crude drawings but delightful silliness. (M-16)

•**STEEPULSE #4** ($4 from Fandom House, PO Box 1348, Denver, CO 80201): A comic devoted to a somewhat exaggerated view of pro wrestling. The wrestlers here are on the verge of being superhero parodies, dashing about, pummeling one another, and behaving in unique image-oriented way. A nice touch makes it pretty funny. (S-56)

•**ST. JUDE'S GYPSY WISEASS CHURCH AND GARAGE SALE #4** ($1.50 (?) from 1501 Rhode Island, Lawrence, KS 66044): Mostly comics content, although I hesitate to put it in this section anyhow, inasmuch as most of these comics are too wedged to make a lot of sense. Alien dishwashers, detectives, political criticism and frogs are among the subjects covered. Partially hand-colored and quite manic. (S-32)

•**STORY & ART MONTHLY #1** (50¢ from Greg Manter, 3833 Concord Bridge Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23452): A new reviewzine that covers comics from the major companies on down to the smalest small press items. Greg reviews story and artwork independently, and provides tough but fair critiques. (D-8)

•**TALES OF THE DESIGNEREAL UNIVERSE #1** (Free, but stamps appreciated, from PO Box 37451, Honolulu, HI 96837): Basically dense op-art in a micro-minicomic format. Printed on deep purple paper, it will dazzle your eyes after a while. (MM-8)

•**TALES OF THE SINISTER HARVEY #3** ($2 & Age Statement from Edgar "Bolt" Upright, 104 W. Main St. #4, Carrboro, NC 27510): A collection of sleazy and disgusting comic art, stolen kiddie characters, slime, ooze, sex, blood, dirt, and other fun stuff. Contributors include Sloane, Gaither, Ticks, Bergin, Worden and more, plus a healthy dose of Bolt's own sick humor. Something to puzzle over, but be sure you include the age statement. (S-82)

•**TALES FROM ROSLYN #3** ($1 from Ed Zolna, PO Box 1278, Roslyn, PA 19001): Trouble is brewing in this fantastic mini featuring well-built giantesses and slobby space aliens. Someone seems to be plotting to take over the world and as usual the mage of the bunch is mucking about causing trouble. Cheerfully odd. (M-24)

•**THE THUNDER & LIGHTNING SHOW #1-2** (50¢ from David Lee Ingersoll, PO Box 15082, Santa Rosa, CA 95402): David calls his publishing empire "Obscure Komix" and in this case the name fits. This mini revolves around some rather incoherent characters at a bizarre radio station, although the action in #1 takes place in a coffee shop. #2 features lots of typing and dimensional cupboards. Strange.(M-12)

•**TOMATO MAN #1** (1 stamp from Scott Miller, PO Box 8531, Salem, MA 01971-8531): A minicomic by Paul Kent Sewell. It concerns a group of tomatoes made self-aware and mobile by strange fumes from a nearby chemical plant. In this first issue they discuss their future relations with human society. (M-8)

•**TRUE TALES OF THE SUBWAY** (35¢ from Art Delano, 98 Marion St. #2, Somerville, MA 02143): A minicomic centered on the Boston subway system. Art tells the story of three harrowing trips, in a sketchy style that works for the subject. Quite nostalgic for us ex-Bostonians. (M-16)

•**TUNA CASSEROLE #7** ($5 from Marc Arsenault, PO Box 2657, New York, NY 10185): A collection of disturbing and distressing artworks, bound with a hard plastic spine. There's color work and transparent pages and even a Basil Wolverton greeting card inside. Lots of contributors, everything from Dick Tracy pornography to existential angst, pitched towards the young and the disaffected. (D-80)

•**UFF DA** (25¢ from PO Box 594, Seattle, WA 98111): A somewhat pointless minicomic poking fun at a somewhat pointless all-purpose Seattle-area saying: "Uff Da", inherited from the local Norwegian community. Sort of a collage/comic sketchbook. (M-8)

•**UG THE BARBARIAN #4** (40¢ & a stamp from 911 Park St. SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504-6241): A cute little comic which takes sword and sorcery to silly extremes. This one tells the story of Ug's birth, complete with incest, hookers and incompetent magicians. (M-8)

•**VACUUMS CARTOONS #1** (35¢ from David Wellen, PO Box 2355, Southampton, NY 11968): A rather poorly-drawn minicomic featuring, primarily, vacuum-cleaner salesmen. The plot is rather surreal, with bits of history and dreams thrown in, and characters with heads shaped like potatoes. (M-8)

•**WHATEVERYACALIT #5** (60¢ from Chris Vargas, 760 W. Lomita #145, Harbor City, CA 90710): A mix of comics and letters on Chris's other productions. There's a fair chunk of sports flavor here, including a cute Olympics & drugs cartoon. I liked best the short article on how to properly TP a house...brought back memories, it did. (D-12)

•**WONTON CARRUBA #5** ($2 from Ralf Schulze, Aardvark Farms, PO Box 785, Glenham, NY 12527): A collection of comics with very few socially-redeeming features. Office photocopy humor, "Why New York Sucks Shit", lots of bodily fluids (especially in Julie Doucet's contributions), drug pix from Carrie, and so on. Funny, but don't let the liberals catch you laughing. (HL-38)

•**ZABAWNY #10** ($1.50 from PO Box 3433, Merchandise Mart Stn., Chicago, IL 60654): A bunch of comic artists tackle the pressing question "What the Heck is going on?" in the light of 20 years of modern revolution. Their answers are not especially encouraging, but they are amusing. Includes work from Wayne Honath, Jim Siergey, Hal Weaver, Andrew Kyle, and more than a dozen other underground artists. (D-28)

★★★★★

COMMON SENSE #6 (£3 from 16 Keir Street, Edinburgh EH3 9EU, SCOTLAND): A journal which is attempting to bridge the gap between the academy and the public, between readers and writers, by providing an accessible forum for intellectual discussion. The forum is accessible, but I'm not so sure about the discussions; varieties of sophisticated Marxism run through this stuff. #6 contains interesting info on the World Bank/IMF protests, as well as deep articles on topics like "Class Struggle and the Permanence of Primitive Accumulation". (A4-88t)

★★★★★

THE COMMUNION LETTER #1 ($20/4 issues from PO Box 1975, Boulder, CO 80306-1975): This one is named after the book of the same title, which is hardly surprising as Whitley Strieber is behind this too. This is the mouthpiece of a support group for "witnesses" who have been contacted by extraterrestrial "visitors". Separate from and distrustful of the UFO community, it's trying to explore common threads among peoples experiences, give counsel on how to deal with them, and organize reputable research while protecting contactees. (S-8t)

★★★★★

COMMUNITY June-July 1989 (Donation from Gay & Lesbian Community Center, PO Box 131, Albany, NY 12201): A small newsletter for the Capital District gay & lesbian community. The June issue looks at some of the history of the gay movement since the Stonewall riots, dips even further back into early resistance to the medical model of homosexuality, and reports on many events and meetings. (S-14t)

★★★★★

COMMUNITY JOBS Vol. 12 #1-6 ($9/6 issues from 1516 P St. NW, Washington, DC 20005): "The Only Nationwide Listing of Socially Responsible Jobs and Internships", this is the place to go if you want to work as a union organizer, low-paid pressman, public interest intern, or something similar. They list dozens of positions every issue, along with contact info and salary ranges. (T-12t)

★★★★★

THE COMPLEAT MOTHER Spring 1989 ($10/yr from Jody McLaughlin, 720 4th Ave. NW, Minot ND 58701): A magazine of support for home birthing, breastfeeding, midwifery, cloth diapers, and other birth- and baby-connected things that are somewhat out of the technological mainstream. It's a bouncing bubbling community of people all writing in to encourage one another, running from simply joyful to powerfully strong. (S-64t)

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COMPOST MODERN LIFE #1 (One 25¢ stamp from Sean Wolf Hill, 2730 Monroe-Concord Rd., Troy, OH 45373): A new no-frills zine promoting a lifestyle of voluntary simplicity and sanity. The lead article is a straightforward argument against eating beef on a number of grounds — the waste of grain, the elimination of rainforests, the desertification of the American west, and more. This is followed up by an examination of the mis- and over-use of pesticides in this country. (S-4r)

* * *

CONCERNED WOMEN FOR AMERICA Vol. 11 #3 ($15/yr from 370 L'Enfant Promenade SW #800, Washington, DC 20024): Slick magazine of what claims to be the largest women's group in the country, formed to "promote traditional and Judeo-Christian values" by pushing for things like school prayer and an end to abortion and a pardon for Ollie North. What's most frightening about them is the statements of support they get from George Bush and Margaret Thatcher, among others. (S-23t)

* * *

CONFLICT #50 ($2.75 from Gerard Cosloy, PO Box 264, New York, NY 10009): The strange and frightening thing about Cosloy is his withering honesty; the curious one is that he's still willing to wallow in new music even though so much of it, looked at clearly, is lame or derivative. But he keeps slogging through the scene, picking out the occasional gem while not neglecting to condemn the slops it sits amidst. This issue includes an interview with Royal Trux and the usual assortment of letters, gossip, and reviews. (S-32r)

* * *

THE CONNECTION #158 ($2.50 from Erwin S. Strauss, PO Box 3343, Fairfax, VA 22038): A highly ornery apa for libertarians, conservatives, and the occasional anarchist — as well as for some folks who appear to have no politics beyond being assholes. Arguments rage over everything from homelessness to getting rich by investing to mammalian politics to post-nuclear worlds to the ethics of capitalism. (D-108r)

* * *

CON NEWS Vol. 1 #5 ($12/yr from 7735 Osceola St., Westminster, CO 80030): A monthly tabloid of news for science fiction convention-goers. In addition to listing upcoming cons, they print a lot of feature articles — reviews of cons good and bad, convention etiquette and hints for running an RPG adventure at one, for example. (T-8t)

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CONNEXIONS #29 ($4 from Flatland Distribution, PO Box 2420, Fort Bragg, CA 95437-2420): "An International Women's Quarterly", trying to build a crosscultural and international movement. This issue is focused on lesbians around the world, with stories of organizing, protests, successes and failures from more than 20 countries. Fascinating bits on things like the Clause 28 fight in Britain, coming out of the closet in Poland and Japan, and being a Lesbian Sandanista in Nicaragua. (S-32t)

* * *

CONSERVATIVE CHRONICLE Vol. 4 #13-24 ($36/52 issues from Hamppton Publishing Co., 9 Second St. NW, Hampton, IA 50441): If you love the editorial page of your local middle American newspaper, this one is for you. It's nothing more nor less than a collection of opinion colummns and editorial cartoons from syndicated conservatives. Writers here include Jeane Kirkpatrick, Pat Buchanan, and Paul Harvey — among many others. (T-32t)

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CONSERVATORY OF AMERICAN LETTERS NEWSLETTER Vol. IV #2 ($2 from PO Box 88, Thomaston, ME 04861): The CAL is a writers support organization which offers a number of programs, from an annual conference to their "personal publishing" program which will put your stuff in print at fairly reasonable prices. They're also trying to establish a refuge/retreat for writers, and they even put out a few manuscripts with their own limited funds. (S-9t)

* * *

CONTACT! THE NEWSLETTER May-June 1989 ($15/yr from Humanist Fellowship of San Diego, PO Box 87662, San Diego, CA 92138): A somewhat loosely organized newsletter of free thought and humanism. In May they bring out the latest news about the contested James Johnson (TRUTHSEEKER) estate, print a calendar of local events, and sprinkle free thought dates and trivia about. (S-9)

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CONTRA WATCH #14 ($15/yr from PO Box 40601, San Francisco, CA 94140): A generally leftist rundown of the other side of the news from South America and other trouble spots. This issue examines the Bush Administration's plans for the region, and finds them wanting — "Peace Through Bullshit" is one of the section headings. They also mention some contras taking their act on the road in an attempted coup in Panama. (S-6t)

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CONVOLUSIONS Vol. 1 #3 (1 IRC from Cerebral Shorts, 5/143 Glenhuntly Road, Elwood 3184, AUSTRALIA): A mail art networking zine which is expanding fast. They print news of upcoming shows, some original works, and lots of contact addresses. There's also multicolored "Print Gocco" work and, in a useful public service, a section where missing correspondents may be advertised for among the community. (D-16t)

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THE COOL TRAVELER NEWSLETTER #3 ($1 from Bob Moore, PO Box 11975, Philadelphia, PA 19145): A collection of first-person narratives from world travelers. This time the tales include a paean to the joys of Alaska, a story of shopping mania in the far east, and a laid-back account of Jamaica's Montego Bay. (HS-12)

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THE CO-OPERATIVE CAULIFLOWER #1 (The Usual from Harry Bond, 6 Elizabeth Avenue, Bagshot, Surrey, GU19 5NX, ENGLAND): A British science fiction zine which is damned near inscrutable, even to someone with more than a passing acquaintance with American fandom. The prime topic appears to be a recent fanfeud in the UK, as anchored by a rather nasty Novacon report by Michael Ashley. Other folks contribute true tales of mayhem and house fires to add some sweetness by comparison. (HL-38)

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CORNFED #1 ($1 from PO Box 430, Arcata, CA 95521): A new collection of somewhat random creativity (which, incidentally, is open to submissions for future issues). Poetry, art, musings on the lack of good coffeehouses in town, short stories, political satire — it's all here. Nothing in particular stands out, but the whole is a nice alternative to the mainstream plastic culture we're all too immersed in. (HL-32)

* * *

COUNTERATTACK #8 ($1 from Refuse & Resist, 305 Madison Ave. #1166, New York, NY 10165): Newsletter of a broad coalition group devoted to creating a "climate of resistance" to oppose the right wing in this country. This issue tells of battling Operation Rescue folks, marching in Washington, resistance in concert, and fighting against concentration camps for illegal immigrants in Texas. Exciting stuff. (S-16t)

* * *

COUNTER INFORMATION #23 (Donation from Pigeonhole CI, c/o 11 Forth St., Edinburgh, UK): An anarchist newsletter of resistance. The big news with them lately has been the regressive poll tax in the UK, which they've been fighting all the way. Labor struggles and human rights problems from around the world are also reported. Very militant and subscribing to a conspiracy theory of rule, e.g. that government actions are deliberately designed to divide the working class. (A4-4t)

* * *

THE COVENTRY READER #1-2 (2 25¢ stamps from PO Box 18418, Cleveland Hts., OH 44118): This literary tabloid takes small-press works, reprints them in a 10,000 circulation, and gets them in front of the public. Seems like a good idea that could happen in any decent-sized town; I wonder why it doesn't? Anyhow, there are some familiar names here, including Kristen Ban Tepper, Bob Sheridan and Cheese Borger. A nice mix of poetry, short prose, and artworks. (T-20t)

* * *

THE COWAN NETWORK

These are available from PO Box 15, Altadena, CA 91003. There's no prices on any of them, but sending stamps would probably be sufficient. They also issue strange posters and broadsides. There's also some stuff in the music section from these folks.

•**CONSUMPTION. SUFFOCATION**: A collage of industrial life gradually turning the world to a mechanical nightmare. "The spectacle is the moment when the commodity has attained the *total occupation* of social life." (S-6)

•**COWAN COMMUNIQUE** #24-29: A variety of pamphlets explaining the tenets of this group. #24 and 25 are about "psymbols", looking at the power of symbols and one particular one used by the Cowans. #26 is titled "Peace: A Bankrupt Concept", and argues for appropriate rage in defense of values. #29 is "The Manifesto of Atheist Paganism", trying to come to a synthesis from this contradiction. New ideology for new times. (D-4t)

* * *

CRAMPED AND WET #5 ($1 from Rob Treinen, 3015 Virginia, Sioux City, IA 51104): "A Punk Approach to Writing, Art and Music". This issue is sort of overrun by no-punches-pulled zine and book reviews, including a

THE COOL TRAVELER NEWSLETTER
WANTED INFO ABOUT NON-U.S. COUNTRIES: ANY TOPIC, PUNK/ UNDERGROUND/ ALTERNATIVE SCENE SITES, SOUNDS, PLACES, PEOPLE. SAMPLE WITH SASE.
COOL TRAVELER P.O. BOX 11975
PHILA., PA. 19145

few things I haven't seen. There's also some disgusting literature (especially "Attack of the Mutant Killer Enema Nurses" by Slimy P. Vomit) and some nice art. The opening editorial sets a perfect tone of frustrated wonder. (S-14r)

★★★★★

CRAWL OR DIE #8 (SASE from Scott Miller, PO Box 8531, Salem, MA 01971-8531): Ranting and raving about the state of the music scene today. Scott prints a batch of letters and responds to them in a down-home style, yelling at people, poking fun, whatever. This issue includes his list of best everything (record, comic, zine, news story, you name it) of 1988, plus a "Wake Up and Smell The Music" supplement of reviews. (S-6r)

★★★★★

CREDENZA #5 ($2 from Amy Sundberg, 743 Goodrich Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105): A little magazine of creative experiments. This time it's mostly graphics, with the bulk of the issue divided between Amy's own collaged dreamscapes and Geoff Sass's "Routine", a selection of morning pictures with captions. There's also a word insert with stuff by Carol Schneck and Ronald Edward Kittell, as well as a booklet of White Boy poems held in by Velcro. (S-12)

★★★★★

CRITICAL MASS Vol. 1 #1 ($2 from 12 O'Clock Rock, PO Box 4904, Panorama City, CA 91412): This seems to be collected excerpts from a newsletter that goes along with a punk radio show; sentences disappear without warning from one page to the next. There is some unified material, though, including a socio-historical look at the origin of punk music and a guide to shopping for obscure records in the LA area. (S-18t)

★★★★★

CRITICAL WAVE #10-11 ($10/yr from Tom Hanlon, 13833 N. Amiss Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70810-5044): A British science fiction newszine with agents in several other countries taking some of the mailing work off the shoulders of editors Steve Green and Martin Tudor. While much of the news is obscure, being fannish and British, US readers will appreciate the book reviews, the interview with Clive Barker, and the story of FANTASY TALES magazine in #10. #11 features a chat with Terry Pratchett. (A4-20r)

★★★★★

CRITIQUE #31 ($5 from PO Box 11368, Santa Rosa, CA 95406): I was less happy with this issue than previous ones which attempted to "Expose Consensus Reality" in different ways. CRITIQUE always provides unusual views of the world, and this is a special issue titled "End of the World or End of an Illusion", it takes a look at apocalyptic thought in history and today. Unfortunately too many of their writers repeat the same old rubbish about the world coming to an end in the year 1000, and many of the looming causes of apocalypse now — notable ecological ones — are not addressed. There are bright spots, including Martin Levin's article on the New Age views of The End and Wing Fu Fing's romps through Kondratieff Waves and other stuff, but on the whole, not one of their better issues. (S-96t)

★★★★★

CRUEL FLYER #3 (50¢ from 12 White Oak Way, Trenton, NJ 08618): A pretty basic music zine, There's a couple of live show reviews, a couple of record reviews, and an interview with Sticks and Stones here, along with a few photos. Nothing real extensive or polished, but nothing pretentious either. (D-12)

★★★★★

CRYONICS Vol. 10 #4-5 ($2 from 12327 Doherty St., Riverside, CA 92503): The magazine of Alcor, one of the solider cryonics organizations in the world (their statistics show 126 suspension members, 199 associate members and 12 "members in suspension"). #4 has some optimistic notes on the future information society and an interesting rundown on the state of the art in Europe. #5 reports on their latest suspension and features several assessments of the probability of surviving such a trip. (HL-40t)

★★★★★

CRYSTAL RAIN AGENCY REPORT #3-4 (Contribution from PO Box 174, Richland, GA 31825): A collection of reviews and leads to various out of the ordinary things. In #3 it's a book service that stocks stuff on political discipline, the Spybase software, and a natural herbs mail-order source. #4 evaluates and recommends Loompanics as a source of unusual books. (S-1)

★★★★★

CUBIST POP MANIFESTO #7 (50¢ from 3408 Juliet St., Pittsburgh, PA 15213): Mostly a collection of reviews, and not all music either. They also do things like review a book on driving safely, or a pair of resistor articles — one on a political resister, and one on the color code for electrical ones. Galaxie 500 and Some Velvet Sidewalk are among the bands that get treated in depth here. A fun and friendly zine. (D-24t)

★★★★★

CURIOS THING #3 (Artistic contributions or perhaps IRCs from A.1 Waste Paper Co., Ltd., 71, Lambeth Walk, London SE11, ENGLAND): A small mailart zine. This issue returns to the theme of inventions, with various unlikely constructions of potential use to mail artists being examined. Cheery and comical. (MM-16)

★★★★★

CURRENT Vol. 5 #1 ($15/10 issues from PO Box 5055, Potsdam, NY 13676): "The Journal of North Country Action", this is a social justice and environmental magazine from the rural counties at the north end of New York. This issue focuses on "community-based economic development", with articles on producers and consumer cooperatives, land trusts, and so on. There's also a look at fraud in the cheese industry and news about the fight to ban low-level Air Force joyriding in the area. (S-24t)

★★★★★

CUT #6 ($2 from Steve Erickson, 11 Julian St., Norwich, CT 06360): Loads of music reviews make up the bulk of this zine; Steve may well review everything that crosses his turntable. He also works a few interviews into the cracks: Volcano Suns, Game Theory, Lonely Moans. A good solid effort with reviews that are both informed and informative. (S-30r)

★★★★★

THE CUTTINGSVILLE TIMES Vol. 4 #1 ($3.20/yr from PO Box 3056, Ann Arbor, MI 48103): A collage of newsclippings and other evidence of the modern world. The world doesn't come out of it too well — rapacious corporations, crazy economic systems, and bankrupt science predominate here. A curious stew, interspersed with quotes and poems and stuff. (S-12)

★★★★★

DAGGER #9 ($1 from Tim Hinely, PO Box 460, Somers Point, NJ 08244): Music coverage with an impressive bulk of reviews, all written by Tim, who apparently listens to a whole mess of indie stuff at all times. There's also long interviews with the Chills and American Music Club, and notes on a batch of live shows. It closes out with top ten lists from famous zine editors, all of whom admit to listening to major label product when they think no one is looking. (S-32r)

★★★★★

DAILY COW #2 (50¢, trade or " 1/2 pint of milk" from David R. Wyder, 121 Gregory Ave #B-7, Passaic, NJ 07055): A small newsbulletin all about cows. David covers the Cowstock music festival, the leading causes of cow accidents, cults for cows, and so on. Picture features introduce leading bovine citizens. There's also a page of "Cudery" and cows-iffied ads. (S-10)

★★★★★

THE DAILY HOSER #1, 1.5 & 2 ($1/set from High Improbability International, PO Box 523, Columbia Station, OH 44028-0523): A bit for the history buff — this is reprints of a high school underground paper which came to an untimely end. Included is the slightly slanderous first issue, #1.5 which explains (sort of) the trouble the publishers got into, and the previously-unreleased #2. All of it is written around a Great White North theme swiped from SCTV. (S-8)

★★★★★

DAILY IMPULSE Vol. 5 #1-3 ($1 from PO Box 90312, San Diego, CA 92109): This anarchist production has returned to a broadside format, and one side of #2 urges support of independent music. The other takes on the local scene and politics, urging action to help break down the borders and barriers that separate people. #3 features a poster with some of Malatesta's thoughts on revolution. (O-2r)

★★★★★

DANGEROUS RHYTHMS #10 ($1.50 from Gene Temesy, 439 Rivercrest Dr., Piscataway, NJ 08854): A music zine that's more interested in a particular image than in frequency or quantity. Hanging around sort of an art rock scene, they talk to quite a line-up this time around: Lydia Lunch, Nick Cave, Chris Stein, Ann Magnuson, Panther Burns and a few more. Also a picked few record reviews and a pile of photos. (S-20r)

★★★★★

DANTE'S GAZETTE Vol. 1 #1 (From Calvin Murry #67387, Lake County Regional, Rt. 1 Box 330, Tiptonville, TN 38079): Calvin is in prison, so you should write and enquire if you're interested in a copy. This is a collection of info aimed at both prisoners and "freeworld citizens". #1 covers some scandals in prison administration, getting hold of one's own medical records, problems with generic drugs, and the philosophy of crime and punishment, among other tidbits. (S-10)

★★★★★

DARK CHAOS #10 ($1.50 (?) from 9018 Westridge Dr., Omaha, NE 68124): A mix of things in a slightly gloomy or grody vein. This includes an interview with Mike from Black Cab-Age, a couple of comics, and plenty of reviews. These include both music and artistic works. There are also short opinion pieces and little fictional snippets. Not a very nice view of life on the whole. (HL-46r)

★★★★★

darknerve #3 ($2.50 from 276 28th St., San Francisco, CA 94131): A magazine of strange and wonderful corners of reality, as reflected in fact, fiction, and genres in between. This issue includes an interview with Christopher Hyatt of the Golden Dawn, short bits on love by Richard Kostelanetz, a review of one of Antero Alli's books, and "I Was Eaten by an Extraterrestrial" — and that's less than half of it. Graphically exciting too, bearing a powerful impact for the neophiliac. (O-32t)

★★★★★

DAVID McCALDEN REVISIONIST NEWSLETTER #87 ($200/yr from PO Box 3849, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266): There's not really much here about the Holocaust (which of course McCalden says didn't happen, or at least not deliberately). Rather, the focus is on gossip in the revisionist community and on various court cases involving revisionists. The strange thing is not that anyone believes in revisionism, but that anyone cares enough to pay the asking price for this no-frills newsletter. (S-8)

★★★★★

DEAD LETTER #4 ($1 from Ryan, 7146 Remmet Ave. #120, Canoga Park, CA 91303): A skinny but marginless music zine that's mostly interviews, with poetry filling in the gaps. This time they chat with Implement, Cringer, and some members of SHARP, among others. (S-16)

★★★★★

DEATHBOX 4 ($1 from Ross, 1437-1 Monument St., Concord, MA 01742): The text here traces the history of the civil rights movement, which the editor apparently found interesting enough to reprint. The pictures, though, have more affinity to the punk scene: lots of skateboards, pictures of guys hanging around, and various arty photographs. A collection that doesn't announce its reason for being. (D-20t)

★★★★★

DEATHREALM #9 ($3.50 from Mark Rainey, 3223-F Regents Park, Greensboro, NC 27405): A very impressive horror and fantasy fiction zine. I enjoyed quite a number of the stories, which seem to take very fresh approaches. For example, Joe R. Lansdale's "Pentecostal Punk Rock" combines some modern background with age-old apocalyptic ideas, while Fred Chappell's "The Adder" adds a fun piece to the myth of THE NECRONOMICON. There's also poetry (given plenty of room rather than used as filler), book and zine reviews. A fine package indeed. (D-56t)

★★★★★

DECALCOMANIA #64 ($1.50 from Doug Hanbury, 1521-68th St., Des Moines, IA 50311): A fanzine for radio fans — more specifically, collectors of stickers, airchecks (bits of taped stuff specific to various stations) and other souvenir material. They're into trading and cataloguing this stuff, and also keep some track of commercial radio happenings. #64 has their annual April Fool's intro. People who send $1.50 get a sample bulletin which explains all this much better than I can. (D-38)

★★★★★

DECENTRALIZE #12 ($1 from Carol Moore, PO Box 1608, Washington, DC 20013): A publication that links up various decentralist currents in politics: Greens, feminists, Libertarians, and others. Carol reprints encouraging things as well as cautionary articles. There may be changes soon, since she's ready to swing back from politics to ethics — but whatever happens, it's likely to stay thought-provvoking. (S-6)

★★★★★

DECONTROL #- 1/2 (25¢ from Spencer Sunshine, 205 Dogwood Dr., Lawrenceville, GA 30245): A mighty small music zine from the Atlanta area — sort of shrunk down, like a minicomic. Real quick news on local bands and a couple of record reviews make up this issue. Useful for showhoppers in the area. (D-8)

★★★★★

DELINEATOR #7 ($10 from Alan White, 455 E. 7th St. #4, San Jacinto, CA 92383): Yeah, the price is steep but (a) it's huge, (b) it's great, and (c) it's the last issue. Alan is throwing in the towel on his sf zine thanks to a lack of response, but he's going out with a bang. There's a zillion pages of appreciation of Forry Ackerman from various people, a great letter column, ten years of fan history, lots of photos, short SF tales, and even a few nude fan pix. Comes with a poster of fannish license plates. (S-152)

★★★★★

THE DEMOCRATIC COMMUNIQUE Winter 1989 ($20/yr from Karen Paulsell, UDC, 1016 61st St, Oakland, CA 94608): The jam-packed newsletter of the Union for Democratic Communications, a radical group which looks at the various messages we're bombarded with every day. Their concerns range from the audience of Dallas to radical environmental media strategy to the Reagan legacy of news coverage to a film workers' strike. (S-24t)

★★★★★

DEMOLITION DERBY #1 ($1 (?) from CP 1554, Succ. B, Montreal, Que., CANADA H3B 3L2): A new tabloid from Michael William, a self-proclaimed "primitivist" and anti-authoritarian gadfly. The best part of this is his lengthy demolition of Chaz Bufe's latest round of attacks on the anti-work, anti-tech position, in which William comes up with sane history and reasonable arguments in a polemic with a minimum of invective. There's also John Zerzan on music, a look at the dangers of ecology fetishizing, and other anti-ideological pieces. Sure to provoke some discussion in anarchist circles. (T-32t)

★★★★★

DE NAR #32-34 (IRCs from Frank Geeraert, Bunderdreef 2, 1710 Dilbeek, BELGIUM): Fanzine and music coverage from Europe, though they review plenty of American items as well. They also publish concert and event listings and the occasional bit of activist news — all in Dutch, however. #34 includes a translation of one of the anti-McDonalds pamphlets floating about. (A5-27r)

★★★★★

DER KUHNKTH #1 (50¢ from P. Dunham, 639 1/2 E. Lincoln Hwy., Dekalb, IL 60115): A collection of rather empty-seeming artworks, including comic, collage, and xerographic works. There's also a bit of poetry, and the overall effect seems to be the usual anti-system stuff, combined with a disavowal of any overt political stance. (D-24)

★★★★★

DETECTIVE STORY MAGAZINE #5 ($4 from Gary Lovisi, PO Box 209, Brooklyn, NY 11228-0209): This issue of this mystery/adventure zine opens with a pair of cute pastiches that are actually well-done. First, C.J. Henderson's "You Can't Take it With You" delivers a hard-boiled Lovecraftian story. Then Jon L. Breen gives us C.S. Forester as a police procedural in "Captain Benvolio Bullhorner". Half a dozen others round out the mix for an evening of light reading. (D-46r)

★★★★★

DE WITT DIGEST & REVIEW Vol. 4 #1 ($2 (?) from PO Box 355, Seal Beach, CA 90740): Short essays examining and evaluating recent works in a variety of scholarly fields. Of the 9 essays in this issue, for example, one deals with Leonard Levy's book on original intent, and another with a Japanese evaluation of the US trade deficit. Psychology, literary criticism, morality and medicine are among the fields touched on. A welcome addition to the life of the mind. (D-36t)

★★★★★

DHARMA COMBAT #6 ($2.50 from Keith, PO Box 20593, Sun Valley, NV 89433): An apa for the discussion of spirituality, religion, conspiracies, and other allied subjects. Contributions range from tight philosophical essays to cartoons to wild conspiracy theories, like the one tying the masons to building placement in Washington. Plenty of viewpoints from clear off the map come together here. (D-80r)

★★★★★

DIALOGUE #81 ($5/yr from Brad Ott, 916 Euterpe St., New Orleans, LA 70130): A monthly alternative newszine from down south. #61 has a summary of anti-nuke actions in 1988 as well as more news on Three Mile Island. (HL-12r)

★★★★★

DIARIST'S JOURNAL #17-19 ($2 from 102 W. Water St., Lansford, PA 18232): I was struck by a phrase in #17 which could describe much of my life: "From discipline to habit to obsession". These little bits of insight are one good reason to keep reading bits of other people's diaries, which is what this tabloid is all about. In #19 Edward Robb Ellis, himself a prolific diarist, tells the story of Carolina Maria de Jesus, a stunning diarist from the Sao Paulo slums. (T-20t)

★★★★★

THE DILLINGER RELIC #61 ($1 from Arthur D. Hlavaty, PO Box 52028, Durham, NC 27717): Arthur continues to amuse and educate with his witty writing. #61 features his annual report on the Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts, as well as more notes on his continuing evolution into a neep-neep. (S-12t)

★★★★★

DISASTER AREA #4 (1 IRC from Andreas Hartwig, Am Timpen 18, 4030 Ratingen 6, WEST GERMANY): A small music review zine from Germany. It's mainly in German, although the SNFU interview in this issue is in English. Lots of little bits of news and reviewing are scattered around, with a layout somewhat reminiscent of the classic SICK TEEN. (A5-8r)

★★★★★

DISCOMBOBULATION #1-2 (75¢ from PO Box 2391, Montgomery, AL 36109): A melange of creativity and confusion: rude things to do at K-Mart, a eulogy for Abbie Hoffman, comics, short stories, punk music, skating, and lots more. They seem to be open to all sorts of contributions, with a concentration on the local scene. Lots of energy and a deliberate lack of focus. (HL-32)

★★★★★

DISCORDER Apr.-June 1989 ($12/yr from SUB Rm 233, UBC, Vancouver, BC, V6T 2A5, CANADA): A college radio zine from the University of British Columbia that does a fine and colorful job — a bit reminiscent of LCD. The April issue is almost entirely devoted to strange comic art and bizarre jokes. May and June are more traditionally musical, with the latter featuring Jello Biafra and The Violent Femmes. (S-24t)

★★★★★

DISCOTEXT May-June 1989 ($12/12 issues from Graceland, 1250 Richards St., Vancouver, BC V6B 3G2, CANADA): Graceland is a nightclub, and this is their house fanzine. Mostly they're into listing what they play on various nights, but they also publish silly horoscopes and other tidbits. An increasing number of dance music reviews are appearing in recent issues. (S-12t)

★★★★★

DISCOURSE #9 ($2.50 from Mike Shanley, 6433 Landview, Pittsburgh, PA 15217): Music coverage from the Pittsburgh area, featuring perhaps the last retrospective on 1988 (this issue came out in May). Interviews with Sylvia Juncosa, Roger Miller and the Volcano Suns anchor this issue, along with gig and show reviews. (S-23r)

★★★★★

DISCOVERIES June 1989 ($2.50 from PO Box 58, Annandale, MN 55302): A fat tabloid for record collectors, about three-quarters ads from people looking to buy and sell vinyl and related rarities. The other quarter includes feature articles with discographies (Judy Garland and Ann-Margret among those in this issue) and an extensive letter column where someone always comes up with the requested obscure information. (T-152t)

★★★★★

DISCUSSION BULLETIN #35 ($3/6 issues from PO Box 1564, Grand Rapids, MI 49501): An open forum for discussion of socialism, syndicalism, anarchism, DeLeonism, and related topics. Most of #35 is taken up with comments on a critique of Marx undertaken by John Crump in a previous issue. There's also some news of socialist movements in other parts of the world. (HL-24r)

★★★★★

DISORIENTATION #4.0 ($1 from OAC, 410 Kansas Union, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045): An alternative orientation manual for students, with a lot of stuff the college administration won't tell you. This issue talks about edible plants on campus, animal ingredients in foods, resources for the homeless, and the value of doing something useful with your degree. Aimed at the U of Kansas, but could be an inspiration to progressive students anywhere. (S-32t)

★★★★★

DISTRAUGHT CATTLE and **DYSMETRIC CARIBOU** ($1 (?) from Katrina Kelly, PO Box 557, 18 Taylor Ave., Earlville, NY 13332): Yup, the title of this cultural collection changes every time, but Katrina asks that you not use it on the envelope anyhow, so it doesn't matter. Inside are bits of art and opinion as well as want lists from dozens of people (silly things, like "What I want for Katrina's Birthday"). The back page is give over to random graffiti and pithy sayings. Creativity run amok. (S-8)

★★★★★

THE DIXIE VOICE Vol. 3 #15 ($3 from Melissa Manuel, Route 2 Box 121-A, Germantown, NC 27019-9629): Music coverage focused on the Raleigh area and North Carolina, but also covering various visiting dignitaries like Sonic Youth. This issue looks back on 1988 and features a long interview with Majosha. A real nice layout and graphics keep this zine feeling professional above and beyond its size. (S-35t)

★★★★★

DOCUMENTS-PAGES #3-4 (100 Fr./10 issues from Ph. Bille, BP 249, 33012 Bordeaux, FRANCE): Another ten pages each of this mail art collection. Perhaps more interesting than any of the pictures or French texts here is an appended essay (in #3) by Philippe looking at the various facets of mail art and some of their decline. #4 includes several pages of contact info for the international xerographic art community. (A4-10)

★★★★★

DOINK! #1 ($1 *cash/stamps* from PO Box 8311, Worcester, MA 01614): A new zine that's trying to break into the local freebies market by dint of music and social coverage. The first issue explores back-masking (somewhat tongue in cheek) and features an interview with Mark Stewart of Tackhead. (S-12)

★★★★★

DON-O-SAUR 54 (The Usual — but not available for money — from Don C. Thompson, 3735 W. 81st Pl., Westminster, CO 80030): A very thoughtful and personal zine from the science fiction community. Don uses writing (his own and others') to explore life and his feelings about it. Topics in this issue include things to get angry at, the writings of Michael Moorcock and (on the lighter side) caricatures of the editor. (S-33)

★★★★★

DOOR NO. 3 Vol. 1 #1 ($1 (?) from PO Box 598, Brookline, MA 02146): A new tabloid which wants to help provide writers with access to the world. In practice that means a wide range in their first issue. The major piece is an interview with a leader of Operation Rescue. Others submit poetry, or music reviews, or a page of photographs. (T-12t)

★★★★★

DOWN BY THE BOARDWALK Vol. 3 #1 ($2 from White Knight Productions, PO Box 656, Wautoma, WI 54982-0656): A place for folks who want to trade or sell or buy records. They print want lists and sale lists, along with a few articles about things like the decline of the LP. More lists than usual in this issue, but the copying on some of them is submarginal. (S-13)

★★★★★

DOWNTOWN #142-143 ($1 or thereabouts from Soho Arts Weekly, 151 First Ave., New York, NY 10003): A free tabloid for the mildly trendy New Yorker. #142 is a typical mix, with articles on radical environmentalism, a "Son of Andy Warhol" art show, subway musicians and the new head cop in the Tompkins Square area. #143 talks about environmental disasters, Abbie Hoffman, and the Intifada. (T-32t)

★★★★★

THE DOWNTRODDEN Vol. 1 #3 (1 stamp from AIM Productions, 193 S. Railroad St., Hummelstown, PA 17036): A roundup of human rights news from around the world, concentrating on abuses. They don't pretend to be comprehensive or original researchers, just a handy compilation, and they fill that slot reasonably well. With #3 and editorial appears for the first time, pointing out a common thread between stories in the form of the IMF. (S-8)

★★★★★

DO YOUR OWN COMIC! ($2 from American Living Press, PO Box 901, Allston, MA 02134): A selection of art from ages gone by. Mostly it looks like old comics and ads, with the twist that every page is laden with empty voice-balloons. The publishers ask that you fill these in and send them back, and they'll let you have a copy of the finished product. (D-28)

★★★★★

DRAFT NOtices Vol. 10 #2 ($10/yr from COMD, PO Box 15195, San Diego, CA 92115): Regular newsletter from a group which, started to protest the draft, has settled in to the long haul of anti-militarism. In this issue they report on the latest sneaky way to find yourself registered (watch out for those financial aid applications), discuss the burgeoning crop of National Service bills before Congress, and update us on their efforts to bring an alternative point of view to the local schools. (S-10)

★★★★★

DRIPPINGWETTE GAZETTE #10 ($1 from PO Box 127, Wickatunk, NJ 07765): A pretty slapdash collection of creativity. #10, for example, has some music reviews, collages, comics, and snotty things to say about Walt Disney movies, for openers. Looking for more contributions of just about any sort. (S-20)

★★★★★

THE DROOD REVIEW OF MYSTERY Vol. IX #3-5 ($1.50 from PO Box 8872, Boston, MA 02114): Things are still looking good at this mystery review zine. #3 contains their Spring Preview of forthcoming titles, as well as a look at a couple more new PI's and writer Jonathan Gash. #4 features reviews of all the book-length Edgar Awared nominees and of course the usual short reviews of current books. (S-16t)

★★★★★

DUMARS REVIEWS #4 ($1.50 from Terata Publications, PO Box 810, Hawthorne, CA 90251): Denise Dumars uses this zine to review whatever she thinks should be reviewed, including magazines, books, videos, and restaurants and occult shops in the Southern California area. There's perhaps a 50% overlap with things I see; her contacts are stronger in the speculative fiction and poetry area than mine. Gentle, intelligent reviewing that can work up a froth when confronted with injustice. (D-20)

★★★★★

DUMPSTER DIVE #2 ($1.50 from 74 Osbourne Ave., East Norwalk, CT 06855): Painfully bad printing mars some of the pages of this zine (too dark rather than too light for a change), but you may find it worth the eyestrain. Besides a rundown on the local music scene, they have interviews with Henry Rollins and Jack Rabid, among others, in this issue. A centerfold of high contrast photos gives it that punk look, and the racist skins get a few boots in the ass too. (S-28r)

★★★★★

BRUCE N. DUNCAN

Bruce has been hanging around the wilder fringes of the underground for years, and doing art all along. He's got a wickedly satirical way of looking at the world guaranteed to piss of a lot of people. These publications are classics, but still available from him at B.E.F.P., 2425 College Ave., Berkeley, CA 94704.

•**HANK AND HANNAH COMICS** ($2 & Age Statement): Dating from 1982, this is a collection of strips that started in the late 70s. Hank is a hard-working blue-collar sort of guy who believes that a man should rule the home with a strong hand and a strap if need be; Hannah is his rather unliberated wife who has her own weapons in the battle of the sexes. Thing is, they still love each other, though in a more traditional mode than many feminists will be comfortable with. Funky art and amusing situations. (S-36)

•**TELE TIMES** #21-29 ($100 & Age Statement for #21, or $3 & Age Statement for any other issue): The reason #21 goes for a premium is that it contains an extensive interview with R. and Aline Crumb, as well as a Crumb cover. Any of these is worth dipping into, though, if you want to see the counterculture as it was in the early 80s in the Bay Area. Underground cartoonists pass through in great numbers (with fun work from Ace Backwords, for example), sexual liberation extends to include S/M, People's Park is a big issue as is homelessness. Harvey Pekar does literary criticism in most of these issues — intros to Stephen Crane or Mark Twin, for example — while Bruce Duncan provides explicit cartoons. Strange manifestoes, community groups, political candidates and causes parade through these wild pages. (HL-48 to HL-180, depending on issue)

•**TOP COMEDY AND BOTTOM BURLESQUE** ($6 & Age Statement): A collection of Bruce's sexual cartoons, mainly involving sado-masochism, although a few other things are touched on, including fisting and anal sex, as well as beating kids. Not for the easily offended, or even the slightly puritanical. From 1980, which is hardly surprising, as it might be tough to publish this sort of thing today. (HL-112)

★★★★★

THE DUPLEX PLANET #99 ($1.50 from PO Box 1230, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866): #99 is a rather different edition of this collection of answers to odd questions by nursing home residents: it's entirely made of pieces reprinted from other zines. The usual delightful mix of zany questions and off the wall answers makes it fun reading once again. (D-14)

★★★★★

EAR Vol 14 #2 ($2.50 from 325 Spring St. #208, New York, NY 10013): A "Magazine of New Music" which seems determined to be academically respectable. This is a special issue devoted entirely to percussion music from around the world — Spanish bells, Manhattan Marimba Quartet, Claire Heldrich, and many more. Imagine an early issue of **OPTION** with all the groups you've ever heard of surgically removed. (S-66t)

★★★★★

EAR OF CORN #4-6 ($1 from Dave, PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): This music zine is mainly interviews, mostly with smaller groups, although Mr. T Experience does sneak into #5. Other folks here include Foolish American Quartet and Bite Your Arm (from lovely Horseheads, New York). #6 includes Alice Donut, and a bonus booklet of Paul Weinman poems. There's also some comics and poetry tucked into odd corners, plus short-short stories. (D-27r)

★★★★★

THE EAST COAST URINAL #1 ($2 from Mike Farrell, PO Box 711, Salem, VA 24153): Pretty impressive for a first little issue — this fat little music zine is flawed only by marginal printing and lack of whitespace. But that's forgivable since so much is crammed in: a longish Happy Flowers interview, a look at all the bands on the Hawker label, columns, reviews, and various anti-authoritarian posters. But please don't take Kent's advice to brew drugs from the **ANARCHIST COOKBOOK** recipes — some of them are dangerous or simply wrong. (A minor correction, but an important one). (D-84t)

★★★★★

EAST VILLAGER May-June 1989 ($10/6 months from 200 E. 3rd St., New York, NY 10009): A community newspaper from the Lower East Side of Manhattan. Not surprisingly, it focuses most on crises: squatted buildings and the struggle to save them, ACT UP demonstrations, the Guardian Angels harassing crack dealers, and other signs of the decline of civilization. It's a wonder that anyone keeps living in that city. Anyhow, this is pretty solid coverage, full of facts and capable of generating much outrage. (T-16t)

★★★★★

ECCO #8-9 ($1.50 from PO Box 65742, Washington, DC 20035): A well-done look at "the world of bizarre video". Editor Charles Kilgore writes well, and tends to go for articles rather than simple reviews. #8, for example, compares several underground films (including *Forced Entry* and *Twisted Tissues*), investigates director "Pat" Patterson, and reports on Klaus Kinski's autobiography. #9 reviews the career of Carroll Baker, and presents a review of four "girl gang" films. (S-8t)

★★★★★

ECHOES 2/89 (10 FIM cash or 25 FIM check from Timo I. Nurmi, PO Box 93, SF-33501 Tampere, FINLAND): Those prices are in Finnish marks, and they much prefer getting it in cash (Finnish, not foreign). The articles in this music zine are in Finnish and English, and concentrate on classic rock and recent imitators, from Sha Na Na forward. An international watering hole for garage music. (A5-32)

★★★★★

ECOMEDIA #50-55 ($15/26 issues from PO Box 915, Stn. F, Toronto, ONT M4Y 2N9, CANADA): Biweekly anarchist news from around the world. #53 is pretty typical, attacking the local cops, reporting on a regional anarchist gathering, and warning readers that they're running out of money again. #54 has some details on the recent Earth First! arrests. (HL-4t)

★★★★★

ECOMEDIA VANCOUVER #6-7 ($15/12 issues from PO Box 69601 Stn. K, Vancouver BC, V5K 4W7, CANADA): Another link in the Ecomedia network of anarchist newspapers. This one tends to be a bit more hysterical sounding than the Toronto branch, but that may just reflect heavy commitment. #6 includes news on local Nazis and what's being done to fight them. #7 has more news on the local fascists plus prisoners rights from around the world. (T-4t)

★★★★★

EDGE DETECTOR #2 ($2.50 from Glenn Grant, PO Box 1408, Stn. A, London, ONT, N6A 5M2, CANADA): A science fiction-oriented literary zine with a futuristic flavor to it — not quite cyberpunk, but something beyond New Wave. Of note here are Keith Brooke's "Dreaming", a tale of future crime; Hakim Bey's weirdpoem "Catastrophic Evensong"; and Genetic Lunarian's detailed comic, "Zerrissenheit". Nice look and feel to the whole package, with plenty of Canadian content and oddball memes and headspaces. (S-36t)

★★★★★

EGG PAGE #7-8 (2 25¢ stamps from Chris Ballew, 3 Wesley Park #4, Somerville, MA 02143): A collection of art from a group who believe that "Art is a necessity, everyone should do it". They even encourage this by including a postcard in #7 for you to decorate and send back. They also print photos, collages, drawings, and bits of prose and cut-up. (D-16)

★★★★★

EMPTIES #9-10 (£5 or The [Fannish] Usual from Martin Tudor, 121 Cape Hill, Smethwick, Warley, West Midlands, B66 4SH, ENGLAND): A dual issue of this science fiction fanzine, issued together but stapled separately. #9 is a theme issue, with a dozen or so fanwriters checking in on friendship — what it is, what it means, and so on, without the sappiness outsiders might expect. #10 is more varied, with two fanzine review columns, lots of letters and a medley of good writing. (A4-46)

★★★★★

ENDLESS STRUGGLE #10 ($1.50 from PO Box 69601, Station K., Vancouver, BC, V5K 4W7, CANADA): An anarchist zine which takes a much stronger stance in favor of class struggle, direct action, and anti-patriarchy than most parts of the movement. This issue includes an interview with someone from RESISTANCE, a paper which publishes news on direct action around the world, as well as a special section of new graphics and poetry. There's also news on anarchy in Europe and the Palestinian uprising. (S-28r)

★★★★★

EOTU Apr. 1989 ($4 from The Eotu Group, 1810 W. State #115, Boise, ID 83702): A high-quality magazine of experimental literature. This issue starts off with a pair of stories predicting serious future uses for current popular culture; Erik Sebastian's "A Call To Arms: Gilliganism Exposed" is silly and chilling at once. Luminaries of the underground like Thomas Wiloch, Edward Mycure, Tim Coats and Al Manachino contribute their own brands of zaniness later on. Worth a look — or several. (D-72t)

★★★★★

EQUAL TIME #183-188 ($30/26 issues from Star of the North Publishing Company, 711 W. Lake St. #506, Minneapolis, MN 55408): "A Non-profit Community Newspaper for Lesbians and Gay Men", this one features mainly news from the Minneapolis area but there's enough national content that it can be read anywhere. News ranges from political to medical to cultural. #188 has a special pullout local directory section included. (T-36t)

★★★★★

ERC NEWSLETTER June 1989 ($5-10/yr from PO Box 81, Floyd, VA 24091): A pretty unique project, the Educational Resource Center is a community-wide watering hole for alternative folks in the area. They do new moon rituals, have space for meetings for things like a women's group, experiment with conflict reolution, and so on. A recent development is the establishment of a LETSystem in the area. (S-12)

★★★★★

EROSPIRIT Vol. 4 #5-6 ($24/6 issues from PO Box 35160, Albuquerque, NM 87176): A visionary New Age journal which is about the only place I get any news of Jose Arguelles' latest Harmonic Window schemes and pronouncements. There's also plenty more in the same vein, as well as special features. #5 has for a theme "Bringing Back the Magic". In #6 the editor gives us a two page account of his personal journey from straight life to the New Age to multi-level marketing. (S-20t)

★★★★★

EROTIC WRITER'S AND COLLECTOR'S MARKET #3 ($14.95 & Age Statement from Michael Drax, PO Box 20593, Sun Valley, NV 89433): A guide for the writer or collector of pornography who wants to know where to find new markets and new magazines. Short (often just name and address) listing of hundreds of magazines, from swingers to fiction to b&d picture books. There's also a list of book publishers plus some video and computer folks into adult topics. (S-62)

★★★★★

EUGENICS #2 ($1 from Phil Riley, PO Box 585, Chelmsford, MA 01824): A marginal zine that is forging its own way rather than relying on reprints. It features mainly collages and curious short fiction, with the occasional rant thrown in for good measure. Sort of a party aboard a sinking ship of civilization. (D-13)

★★★★★

EUROPEAN TRASH CINEMA #1 ($6/12 issues from Craig Ledbetter, PO Box 5367, Kingwood, TX 77325): A new title in the horror video field, with a unique (as far as I know) slant: Craig is going to concentrate exclusively on imported, usually dubbed, titles. He leads off with a review of Nekromantik (Germany), and goes on to Italian and Spanish videos in the first issue. (D-12r)

★★★★★

THE EVENT #30 ($14/4 issues from Events Unlimited, PO Box 203, Pequannock, NJ 07440): The "Journal of Clothes-Optional Living on the Eastern Seaboard" is still doing a good job of coving the naturist community on this end of the continent. They report on places where nudity is legal or tolerated, from beaches to hotels. There are also news bits on things like international naturism, current legal decisions, and coming events. Their photos are generally pretty tasteful as well. (S-30t)

★★★★★

EXIT #4 ($11 & Age Statement from George Petros, PO Box 1405, New York, NY 10011): A slick underground large-format magazine crammed with dangerous, forbidden and simply disgusting works. Among the highlights: a transcription of the last sermon of Jim Jones; artworks by Robert Williams, Nick Zedd, Mark Mothersbaugh and many others (delightfully good graphic quality prevails throughout); a guide to manufacturing poisons and explosives; blasphemous additions to the Bible; sex, drugs, and dangerous psychoses. A graphic portrayal of decadence and apocalypse that will go well on your coffeetable, especially if you have neighbors that you wish to discourage from visiting too often. (O-96t)

★★★★★

EXPERIMENTAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS Vol. V #1 ($3.50 from PO Box 784, Nicasio, CA 94946): "For the Design, Construction and Enjoyment of New Sound Sources", this is a music magazine which artfully mixes modernity and history to get at new and exotic ways of creating pleasant noises. The major feature in this issue is an article on various mirlitons (the kazoo is perhaps the simplest of this class), with a fine piece on Ernie Althoff's experimental music machines as well as a five year index filling the pages out. Editor Bart Hopkin wants me to mention that they'll send a sample issue out for free. (S-24)

★★★★★

EXQUISITE CORPSE Vol. 7 #1/2/3/4/5 ($2.50 from PO Box 25051, Baton Rouge, LA 70803): "A monthly review of books and ideas", though this issue covers five months all at once. Contents range wildly from academic criticism to some decent poetry (with Gary Keenan's screed "Nixon in Hell" shining out) to Bob Black's review of the Loompanics catalog. Often a tad pretentious, at its best this is a provoking way to spend a few hours. (O-20t)

★★★★★

EXTRA Vol. 2 #6 ($4 from FAIR, 130 W. 25th St., New York, NY 10001): A newsletter which watches the media and reports on some of their foibles and failings. This issue tackles the labor practices of the WASHINGTON POST, the failure to cover nuclear plant stories of the NEW YORK TIMES, and so on. They also give publicity to suggestions about how to get fairer coverage of major stories — such as the no-strings funding proposal for public TV here. (S-16t)

★★★★★

FACE THE FACTS #1 ($4 from Thomas Hahnel, Am Steinig 14, 8601 Rattelsdorf, WEST GERMANY): Judging by the band logos, most of this German-language zine is devoted to heavy metal and hardcore music. They talk to folks like Wehrmacht and Death In Action and Lethal Aggression — mainly German bands. Nice open layout and good sense of artwork. (A4-40)

★★★★★

FAMOUS LIVERS #1 (50¢ from Jeff Curtis, PO Box 6643, Cleveland, OH 44101): Here's the story, I think: a batch of Ohio's finest young minds were hanging around the Venice Cafe, someone had a pen and paper, and the rest is history. Cartoons, scketches, pointless rambles, song lyrics and letters to unspecified friends muddle together here on bright paper to capture just a shred of a night out. Comes with a mini-supplement collaged together later that explains a bit of this. (D-16 & M-8)

★★★★★

FANATIC #1-2 (Send stamps to Bloody F. Mess, PO Box 9021, Peoria, IL 61614): A new outpouring of punk rock from Peoria's most notorious citizen. Besides music and gig reviews, Bloody reprints some press coverage slamming his own activities, and spouts off with a few random opinions. The bands he concentrates on are mostly from the Midwest. (D-4r)

★★★★★

THE FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTIONEER'S GUIDE #6 ($2 from PO Box 643, RAFB, TX 78148): A guide for convention fans that literally needs to clean up its act to be useful: the combination of computer typeface and bad printing conspires to make it almost completely illegible (the reverse type headlines *are* illegible). With puzzling you can make out a list of future cons, advice on costuming, and an interview with Real Musgrave, but it's barely worth the effort, especially with other SF convention zines on the market. (D-26)

★★★★★

FANTASY COMMENTATOR #39 ($4 from A.L. Searles, 48 Highland Ave., Bronxville, NY 10708): A journal for the serious scholar of science fiction. Articles cover important editors, magazines, and writers of the early years — for example, Sam Moskowitz's serialized history of SF is up to Jules Verne in this issue. Reviews of important current books, both reference and fiction, are also included. Lots of old-time memories being recorded here with solid documentation. (S-80)

★★★★★

FANTOD #4-5 (75¢ & SASE from Jim S., PO Box 65034, Washington, DC 20035-5034): This one communicates about as well as I do towards the jangled-nerve ending of an acid trip. Great efforts at lucidity via stories of being picked up by a lady cop or interviewing an undertaker come out fragmented, disjointed, and jumbled. A bit of music content, chiefly in the form of record reviews, helps glue the pieces together. Freeform layout and obscure art make this an interesting thing to try to read. (S-4t)

★★★★★

FANZINE FANATIQUE #70 (The Usual, perhaps, from Keith A. Walker, 6 Vine St., Greaves, Lancaster, Lancs., LA1 4UF, ENGLAND): A review of fanzines, primarily from the science fiction world. Keith does branch out a bit to things like spelling reform and conspiracy theory as they cross his path, but this is primarily directed at SF zines British and American. (A4-4)

★★★★★

THE FEAT SHEET Vol. 2 #2 ($10/yr from Derrick Fogle, 818 W. 85th St., Kansas City, MO 64114): A newsletter for players and fans of the sport of footbag — what you probably think of as "Hacky Sack", although that is a trademarked name. They feature reviews of various brands of footbags, technical articles on how to do it, and news on the health of the sport. There's also an entry form for a championship tournament in this issue. (S-8t)

★★★★★

THE FENNOPHILE Vol. 4 #2 ($7.50/6 issues from Lillian K. Lehto, 1419 Yosemite, Birmingham, MI 4809): "A magazine by and for those who love Finland", this is about equal parts travelog and cultural Q&A. The lead article in this issue is about the city of Tampere; a couple of other pieces poke gentle fun at the Finnish language. Rather reminiscent of CELTIC FRINGE, though for a different culture. (S-8)

★★★★★

FESTERING BRAINSORE #7 ($2 from David R. Williams, 249 Tremont St. #1, North Tonawanda, NY 14120): This gory little number calls itself "The Ultimate Splatterzine". It features film reviews, short fiction, ghoulish art, and other things designed to send a shudder down your spine. David Connelly's story "Jerry's Kids" is really quite disgusting, while a liberal dose of Charles Pinion art gives the things a completely deranged look. (S-32)

★★★★★

FICTIVES ($2.50 from Limited Editions Press, 5055 E. Charleston #F110, Las Vegas, NV 89104): Four short stories in a no-frills presentation — indeed, they appear to be simply the manuscripts reduced to fit the page. The only name I recognize here is Willie Smith, but the one I appreciated is J. Madison Davis, whose "The Manufacturing of Christ" presents an excerpt from a suitably bizarre future history. Crosseyed looks at the world. (D-38r)

★★★★★

FIFTH ESTATE Vol. 24 #1-2 ($1 from PO Box 02548, Detroit, MI 48202): #1 is a special issue of this anarchist paper titled "Return of the Son of Deep Ecology: The Ethics of Permanent Crisis and the Permanent Crisis in Ethics." It consists in the main of essays be George Bradford in response to a letter from Earth First!'s "Miss Ann Thropy", and explores a wide range of questions about wilderness, industrial society, agriculture, and how we can get to a better world. Recommended reading for anyone who's followed the debate on deep ecology, and one of the best syntheses to date of FE's own positions on matters of technology, ecology, and society. #2 returns to their usual mixed format of history, current events, theory and debate. FE continues to both encourage my dreams and infuriate me over the state of the world, and remains a simply essential anarchist journal. (S-48t)

★★★★★

FILE 13 #4 (45¢ in stamps from Mark Lo, PO Box 548, Lincroft, NJ 07738): This one has gotten pretty impressive over the last couple of issues, and I would now put it as essential reading — music-based coverage that's not the same old stuff. This issue has a great interview with Adrienne from **TOO FAR** fanzine and a harrowing first-person account of a recent Survival Research Laboratories show by Mason Jones. There's also a Fire Party interview and a ton of honest record and tape reviews. (S-20t)

★★★★★

FILE 770:79 ($5/3 issues from Mike Glyer, 5828 Woodman Ave. #2, Van Nuys, CA 91401): All the news about science fiction fandom that's fit to print, and some that isn't. Mike has a fun style and knows an awful lot of people, and as a result there's plenty of interest here. #79 has this year's Hugo nominees, plus fallout on some previous cons and past articles on Scientology in fandom. (S-22r)

★★★★★

FILE UNDER TEXTURE (30¢ & postage from The Beguiling, 185 Harbord St., Toronto, ONT M5S 1H5): This seems more like an outline for a zine than a zine itself. It's made up of rather sketchy art bits, mostly drawings but including a few pieces of collage. There's a feeling of open-endedness to it all. They ask that you write before sending any money. (HL-8)

★★★★★

FILMCLIPS #3 ($2 from PO Box 1335, New York, NY 10013): A newsletter billing itself as "The Movie Memorabilia Classifieds", and it's growing as a few more people take out ads. There's also articles on things like the Brady Bunch specials or deaths in the film world, plus a few fanzine reviews. (S-8t)

★★★★★

FILM EXPERIENCE #2 ($3 from Randy Johnston, 3114 NW 41, Oklahoma City, OK 73112): This one is by and for those whose lives were deeply affected by the movies. The criterion for talking about films here is not quality or sleaziness, but whether the writer was affected. In #2 Randy looks at a number of movies portraying mental illness, Kris Phillips talks about "Educating Rita", and Chi Chi Ramon unleashes a b-grade short story. Illustrated with classic publicity stills and ads. (S-39)

★★★★★

FILMFAX #14 ($25/6 issues from PO Box 1900, Evanston, IL 60204): "The Magazine of Unusual Film & Television", this one has a predilection for unknown moster movies. They do branch out, though, getting as far as a pilot for a Marx Brothers TV show that never happened, or some of Johnny Weismuller's jungle films. Informed opinion with lots of rare stills and tons of ads from people who will sell you bits of cinematographic history. (S-98t)

★★★★★

FILM THREAT #19 ($3.50 from PO Box 951, Royal Oak, MI 48068): Centered on film but occasionally straying to other low culture media, this one is well-done and packed while only occasionally gratuitously offensive. Features in this issue include a chat with Jonathan Reiss, video archivist for Survival Research Laboratories, and an analysis of the popularity of movies about mass murderers. There's also famous extras, a Clive Barker interview, screenwriting advice, horror comics, and lots more. (S-64t)

★★★★★

FILTH #2 (75¢ & 2 stamps from Box 851, 715 Stadium Dr., San Antonio, TX 78284): A punk/hardcore music zine with some interesting features — like the extensive Yugoslav scene report (they seem to have located a correspondent there). Interviews include DJ Lebovitz, Oi Polloi, and Media Children. They also print some stuff about apartheid and animal rights and a call from GG Allin for punks to go kill people in his name. (S-34t)

★★★★★

THE FINAL FRONTIER #52 ($2 from Colin Hinz, 349 West St. N #3, Orillia, ONT, L3V 5E1, CANADA): An apa which is supposedly for science fiction discussion, but ranges a bit wider than that. With under a dozen members, it's not exceptionally active, but there are things worth reading, including some intelligent political discussion and a Star Trek fanfiction story. (S-38)

★★★★★

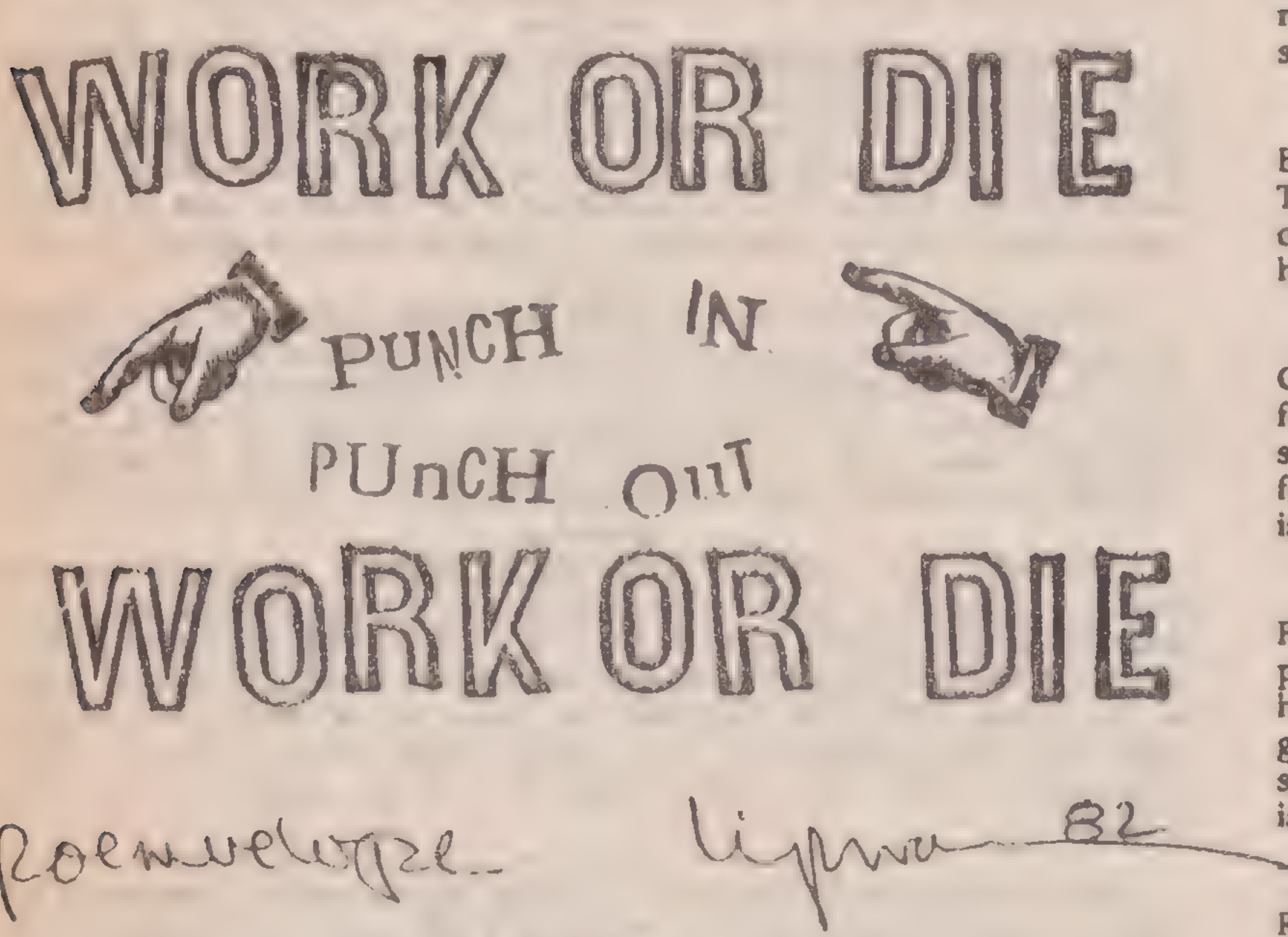
FINN HERITAGE Vol. 4 #4 ($3 from PO Box 1675, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406): A tabloid of Finnish and Finnish-American history and culture. This issue includes the history of the post-WWII war crimes trials in Finland, a story in English and Finnish, and reminiscences of a couple of Finnish-American communities. There's also a somewhat sketchy guide to pronouncing words in a language which churns out gems like "Paivallispoydassa" (umlauts omitted). (T-8t)

★★★★★

F.I.O.T. #8 (SASE from Daniel Ust, 321 Maple St. #49, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861): A minizine with libertarian leanings and not much content. This issue urges the readers to buy guns, listen to challenging music, and publish something themselves. It also presents a short story. (D-4)

★★★★★

FISH #2 ($2 & 2-3 stamps & Age Statement from Art Humble, PO Box 3232, Gloucester, MA 01930): A SuGenius-infused artzine with lots of full page collages, drawings, and computer graphic images. These tend towards the symbolic rather than the literal, and are good for some puzzling over. There's also some hints on good sex — however, they're written in cipher so you'll have to work for them. (S-30)



★★★★★

FIVE CENTS' WORTH #18 (50¢ from Gregory Nicoll, PO Box 48254, Atlanta, GA 30362): A zine with a triple thrust: Greg is into Volkswagens, beer, and horror flicks. So that's what he writes about, from a trip report to the local auto show to a movie review of the Elvira movie. Laid back and with the occasional pot of chili or Pissing Dog comic thrown in for good measure. (S-9)

★★★★★

FLICKER #1-3 ($3.50 from PO Box 578309, Chicago, IL 60657): A film magazine that mainly concentrates on low-budget but serious pictures while also sparing space for criticism of major movies. #2 has "Film as Political Force" for a topic, with "Full Metal Jacket", Hitler in the movies, and American War Propaganda, to name a few articles. #3 is devoted to Camp and Exploitation leading off with Andy Warhol and ending with the Honeymoon Killers. Well-written stuff. (S-48t)

★★★★★

FLIPSIDE #60 ($2 from PO Box 363, Whittier, CA 90608): Well, another change at this long-running punk music fanzine: full-color cover, sporting the Dickies, who also get interviewed at length inside. Other chats take place with Agnostic Front, Chemical People, Wrecking Crew, Bad Mother Goose, the Honeymoon Killers, and more. Plenty of photos, an active letter column, live and recorded reviews and even classified ads for folks involved in the scene. A winner as always. (S-92t)

★★★★★

FLUID NOOZ #2-3 (50¢ from Jason Spiro, PO Box 12, Slingerlands, NY 12159): An alternative with a complete lack of focus. In these two issues we have music, a story by local poet Alan Catlin, advice on cool things to buy, humor, opinion pieces, collage, and more. #4 will be the last issue, after which a more tightly focused marginals zine is promised. (D-19r)

★★★★★

FNORD #1 ($1.50 from Paul Leonard, PO Box 993, St. Charles, IL 60174): A new zine by some wild literary talents. It splits into two sections: the first, and more mindbending, is full of alternative and experimental writing, while the second tackles the job of comparative fanzine reviews. A nice mix, and while my left brain appreciated the linear writing at the end, my right brain dug the screwiness at the start. (HL-40t)

★★★★★

FOOD MONITOR #46 ($4.50 from World Hunger Year, 261 W. 35th St. #1402, New York, NY 10001-1906): A magazine that centers on the world hunger crisis (which they attribute largely, and properly, to maldistribution) but which also gets into all sorts of geopolitics. Third world debt repudiation, regenerative agriculture. sane development and what *we* can do to help are a few of the topics they tackle. Sensible and deep. (S-47t)

★★★★★

FORCED EXPOSURE #15 ($10/4 issues from PO Box 1611, Waltham, MA 02254): Still a whopping large and essential slice of new music, covering all the must-have disks that no one ever sends to me as well as books and videos. For features, this issue has a chapter from Richard Meltzer's yet-unpublished novel, a long Diamanda Galas interview, another chat with KW Jeter, and Sun City Girls. They even persuade Lydia Lunch to review a few records. The blatant sexism of folks like Steve Albini and Tesco Vee gets old after a while, but those pages are easy to skip. (S-130t)

★★★★★

FORTEAN TIMES #50 ($6 from Flatland Distribution, PO Box 2420, Fort Bragg, CA 95437-2420): A classic repository of the strange and inexplicable. Forteans of course take delight in cataloguing things that do not quite fit into consensus reality, and this is a gargantuan collection of two-headed babies, strange lightning, sleeping girls swallowing snakes, spontaneous human combustion, the Men In Black, and so on. Sensible explanations are offered where available, but mystery is more generally the result. Good articles with references and appropriate but not overpowering skepticism. (HL-80t)

★★★★★

FOUR-ALARM FIRESIGNAL 17 (Donation from Elayne Wechsler, PO Box 1609, Madison Sq. Stn., New York, NY 10159): A newsletter for Firesign Theatre aficionados, with the blessing of the FT folks themselves. All sorts of news tidbits get dug up by the readers and reported here. They also have lots of archival stuff available to those who wish copies. (S-6r)

★★★★★

FREE 2 WHEEL June-July 1989 ($6/yr from PO Box 8532, Universal City, CA 91608-0532): If you live in the LA area you can pick up this magazine for motorcyclists free; otherwise, if you're into bikes, it's probably worth subscribing. They talk about neat places to go on one, interview various folks in the motorcycle community, and look at one custom machine every issue. Lots of ads for everything from jackets to shock absorbers. (S-32t)

★★★★★

FREEDOM FROM THE STREETS Vol. 1 #1 ($10/yr from 808 E. Franklin Ave. #8, Minneapolis, MN 55404): A new tabloid focused on the problem of homelessness in this country. They give some indications of how big the problem is (3 million now, plus 19 million more by 2010), and go on to make specific suggestions. Low-income housing units and the special problems of homeless veterans are among the topics in the premiere issue. (T-8t)

★★★★★

FREEDOM NETWORK NEWS #22 ($20/yr from 9308 Farmington Dr., Richmond, VA 23229): The best source of international libertarian news around — published, reasonably enough, by the umbrella group Libertarian International. Their strongest suit is the wealth of news bits from around the world, mainly about successes of the free market and privatization, though they also keep an eye on electoral politics. (S-12t)

★★★★★

THE FREEDOM SOCIALIST Vol. 11 #3 ($5/yr from 5018 Ranier Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98118): Though they call themselves the "Voice of Revolutionary Feminism", these folks are basically Trotskyites; indeed, they refer to him lovingly as "the old man" and "the prophet". This issue contains a pullout section with their current analysis, predicting the overthrow of capitalism in the 1990s, plus more information on the Freeway Hall case, an attack on the First Amendment which happens to have them as its target. (T-28t)

★★★★★

THE FREEMAN May-July 1989 (On Request from Foundation for Economic Education, 30 S. Broadway, Irvington-on-Hudson, NY 10533): A semi-pro magazine of libertarian and other free market philosophy. In amongst the paeans to the market there are fascinating gems, like Nick Elliott's article on the Levelers in the May issue. (S-40t)

★★★★★

FREE PRESS NETWORK Vol. 8 #2 ($25/yr from PO Box 15548, Columbus, OH 43215-0548): The Free Press Association is a group of journalists who are committed to individual rights and a free press. Their newsletter mostly publishes stuff of interest to members — thoughts on libel laws, on restraint of advertising, and on their own Mencken Awards, for example. (S-8t)

★★★★★

FREE SPEECH Vol. 1 #1 ($129/25 issues from AVN Publications, 8600 West Chester Pike #300, Upper Darby, PA 19082): A new newsletter devoted to one part of protecting the First Amendment: the fight to keep "obscenity" from being wiped out by legislative and judicial fiat. They cover mostly legal cases from the defense point of view, and keep track of the various pressure groups trying to ban things like adult videos. Directed at the home video industry, but of interest to underground publishers of all sorts. (S-16t)

★★★★★

FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD #232 ($1 (?) from PO Box 504, Venice, CA 90294): A free paper in the Venice (California) area, which retains some faint echoes of a hippie past. They run mainly opinion pieces from their readers, from Operation Rescue to town politics. A supplement, VOICE OF THE VENICE TOWN COUNCIL, treats major local development issues in some depth. (T-12)

★★★★★

FREFANZINE 76 ($3 or so from Seth Fehrs, 703 Ninth St. #235, Durham, NC 27705): The libertarian/anarchist science fiction apa is still plugging along with a healthy pagecount and interesting people — and the usual lack of focus. That's because these folks are into all sorts of things besides smashing the state, and they talk about them all, from everyday life to relationships to hot dog buns. I've found this a good group to be part of in the past; it's worth a look if you want a friendly place to discuss anarchy. (S-165)

★★★★★

FRIENDS OF SID & NANCY #1 ($2 from Jahpoole International, PO Box 4444, Springfield, MO 65804): A fanzine for people with a morbid attraction to Sid Vicious and Nancy Spungen, as well as a way for the editor to try to sell photo posters. I find the "punker than thou" attitude to be a bit forced, but she was there, so who knows. Lots of hype and few details in a first issue which promises more news for the future. (S-18t)

★★★★★

FRIENDS OF SYD BARRETT #5 ($1.50 from Robert Koenig, PO Box 1672, Mineola, NY 11501): A true *fan*zine, for people who appreciate the work of Syd Barrett — moving force behind Pink Floyd before he went a bit bonkers. They reprint news stories, review albums and bootlegs, and generally track down what news they can of this elusive rock legend. (D-20r)

★★★★★

FROM THE MOUNTAIN Mar./Apr. 1989 ($15/yr from PO Box 488, Byron, MI 48418): This one is published by Robert Miles, one of the leading "racialists" in America today, and one of the defendants who was acquitted at the Ft. Smith sedition trial. He passes on all sorts of news about various white pride and Identity groups, as well as the antics of the authorities in trying to bust them. Still urging whites to move to the Pacific northwest too. An engaging style and obvious intelligence won't make his racist message any more palatable to most. (S-14)

★★★★★

THE FROSTBITE FALLS FAR-FLUNG FLIER! Vol. 3 #4 ($1.25 from Charles Ulrich, c/o Swick, 1215-D Palomas SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108): A newsletter for fans of Jay Ward animation: Rocky & Bullwinkle, Dudley Do-right, and all the rest. Charles displays a lot of knowledge about all the various episodes, digs up trivia, and provides a useful service in explaining some of the jokes. Other folks chime in too with their own recollections of these amazing cartoons. (S-12)

★★★★★

FUCK THIS FOR A GAME OF SOLDIERS (25p. from Paul Harrison, 46 Lentham Pk Rd., Purston, Pontefract, West Yorks, WF7 5DT, UK): Obviously you should send more for delivery to the States. Paul rants and raves about his teachers, the difference between mods and rockers, the disgustingness of John Denver, and diverse other youth culture topics. The back of each page is blank, so that bits of string or pages from books or previews of upcoming issues may be taped to them. (A5-16)

★★★★★

FULL DISCLOSURE #18 ($1.50 from PO Box 8275-FF, Ann Arbor, MI 48107): A paper for citizens who prefer to know their rights and demand the government follow them. They keep up with the latest in civil rights and police procedures law, follow the IRS follies, and look into electronic surveillance. Reading it can make you paranoid, but better safe than sorry. (T-20t)

★★★★★

FUN TIMES Vol. 1 #3-4 (Send stamps to Universal Church O'Fun, 4326 Woodstock Blvd. #666, Portland, OR 97206-6270): The wit and wisdom of Baba Bar Ran, a practitioner of wu wei, the art of attaining enlightenment by doing nothing. He suggests having fun as the answer to many problems, and answers questions from those lacking this thing in the newsletter. (S-4t)

★★★★★

FUTURE Vol. 5 #8-10 ($2 from PO Box 228, Butte, ND 58723): A variety of alternative ideas, often centering on an ecological view of the world. They reprint bits of interest from all over, and provide a calendar of alternative events. Topics in #9 include fluoridation, oxygenation therapy, and the aging nuclear infrastructure. (S-14)

★★★★★

THE GADFLY Vol. 4 #5-6 (Donation from Billings Student Center, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05401): One of the few university newspapers I've seen that's still providing an alternative voice from the left. There are the glimmerings of a national student movement here, with articles looking at liberation struggles worldwide as well as salary and cultural inequities in their own backyard. News from across the US is picked up as well. Bears watching. (T-8t)

★★★★★

GALAXY CLASS #4 ($4.50 from Christopher Simmons, Box 7000-822, Redondo Beach, CA 90277): A fanzine for lovers of Star Trek: The Next Generation (indeed, the only such I know of, though I'm sure there are more). This issue is mostly fan fiction set in the ST:TNG universe, but there's also some blueprints, storyboards for part of hte "Borg" episode, and reflections on second season episodes. (S-30t)

★★★★★

THE GATE Vol. 5 #1 ($1.25 from PO Box 43518, Richmond Heights, OH 44143): A collection of news about the strange and enigmatic things surrounding everyday life, mostly reprinted from more-or-less reputable sources. UFOs, missing people, the crystal skull, cancer-smelling dogs, and so on all come in for inspection and publicity. No real deep research here, but a simple and straightforward style that's easy to read. (S-16)

★★★★★

GAY COMMUNITY NEWS Vol. 16 #39-Vol. 17 #1 ($20/25 issues from 62 Berkeley St., Boston, MA 02116): A weekly of news and views from the gay and lesbian community. #40, for example, reports on AIDS news from both North and South Carolina. #44 has the somewhat incredible news that Georgia is considering gay foster parents. With #46 they've started a "Stonewall Stories" section in commemoration of the historic riot. #48 has eyewitness accounts of that fateful night that are definitely worth reading. (T-16t)

★★★★★

GAY FETISH TIMES & VIDEO REVIEW Vol. 1 #1-2 ($10/yr & Age Statement from PO Box 14425, San Francisco, CA 94114): Despite what the title implies, this is basically a house organ for one gay video company, Sirco, which shares the PO Box. All the films here are from them, with titles ranging from "Toilet Slave" to "Foreskin Talk" to a lot that are less printable. They also stock audio tapes. About the only non-Sirco stuff in the paper is the list of other zines, which could prove useful to some. (T-8t)

★★★★★

GENDER EXPRESSIONS Feb. 1989 ($30/yr from 6A Glenville Ave., Allston, MA 02143): A new publication for people who are part of the "gender issues" community: primarily crossdressers and transsexuals. This is an unsensational support and news journal, without exploitative pictures or sleazy writing. Rather, it's for people who are making a change in their gender identity and need the support of others in similar situations. (S-43t)

★★★★★

GENII Vol. 52 #6-7 ($25/yr from PO Box 36068, Los Angeles, CA 90036): A magazine for stage magicians. They review new products, print plans for large illusions and instructions for small ones, and generally cover the news of the profession. #6 includes construction plans for the rather famous "Zig-Zag" illusion. #7 is a special issue, largely focused on humorous magician Abb Dickson, with explanations for several of his illusions. (S-68t)

★★★★★

GESTALT Vol. 2 #2 ($2.50 from 516 W. Wooster, Bowling Green, OH 43402): A collection of literary stuff: poetry, prose, artwork, essays. There's a generally playful quality here, a joy and wonder with the world, which permeates the whole despite the apparent lack of connection between some of the pieces. Editor Jeff Fearnside has picked up a bunch of interesting folks from the underground (Guy Clark, Oberc, Justice Howard, Geoff Balme, and dozens more) and plopped them down together to have fun. (S-37t)

★★★★★

GET SMART #6 ($1 from John F. Kelly, 30 Cottage Pl., Tarrytown, NY 10591): A special cut-rate summer issue that's still got a lot of laughs inside. I especially like Carlotta Sommerstein's short stories, including a modern unicorn fable and "Othello Goes on the Newlywed Game". John contributes reminiscences of TV merchandise, neighborhood dogs, and other detritus of growing up in the suburbs. And Bob Black drops in with some news shorts. (D-32t)

★★★★★

GET STUPID #12 ($2 from Fishmonger Grafix Studios, 25 Grant St., Cambridge, MA 02138): SubGenius-influenced comics and collages which don't make a great deal of sense — as one of the artists (Pagan Kennedy) even breaks in to explain. This issue includes a bonus pamphlet from Donna Kossy about the trials of living with a conspiratorial kook. Stuff to send your left brain gibbering. (S-20)

★★★★★

GHOSTS & SCHOLARS #11 ($4 *CASH* from Rosemary Pardoe, Flat One, 36 Hamilton Street, Hoole, Chester, CH2 3JQ, ENGLAND): A collection of ghost stories and literary criticism revolving around the workd of M.R. James and those in the Jamesian tradition. Roger Johnson's "The Prize" in this issue is delightfully shuddery, antiquarian and modern at the same time; while the anonymous reprint "Vox Humana" is quite amusing. I was surprised to stumble across a critical essay from LTC Rolt, whose work on machine-tools I used in my thesis; there's more in the small press than even I can imagine sometimes. (A5-41r)

★★★★★

GHOST TRACKERS NEWSLETTER Vol. 8 #1-2 ($10/3 issues from Dale Kaczmarek, PO Box 205, Oaklawn, IL 60454-0205): A newsletter for people interested in looking for ghosts and other evidences of haunting, from a position that seems like "convinced skeptic": cautioning people to look for other explanations, but sure that ghosts exist. They also lead tours to various sites and publish **THE GREATER CHICAGOLAND AND NORTHWEST INDIANA PSYCHIC DIRECTORY** ($3) and the **INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY OF PSYCHIC SCIENCES** ($3) which list numerous other contacts in the field. (S-20)

★★★★★

GLITCH NEWS Vol. 5 #4-6 ($10/12 issues from PO box 4429, Austin, TX 78765): Music and recording news from one of the hotspots of indie music in the country. #4 includes some retrospective notes on the SXSW Convention and more advice from the legendary Fat Man on preparing your instruments for the recording studio. The main feature in #5 is an interview with Ty Gavin. (S-16t)

★★★★★

GLSBR NEWSLETTER #24-25 ($1 (?) from PO Box 63, Jenison, MI 49429): That stands for "Great Lakes Society for Bible Research", which seems to be a more-or-less fundamentalist outfit, devoted to showing how the Bible is true in the face of modern science. There's some scripture and some science here, both on a pretty basic level. Main topic in these issues is sorting out the creation stories in Genesis. (S-4t)

★★★★★

GNOSIS #12 ($5 from PO Box 14217, San Francisco, CA 94114-0217): A slick journal that delves into mysticism as expressed in various Western traditions. This issue the theme is "Sects & Schisms", with articles on such diverse groups as the Rosicrucians, the Swedenborgian Churches, wandering Catholic bishops, Scientology (arguing that there may be good things in the system) and the Moorish Science Temple. Nice history, good references, book reviews and more make this a joy for the observer or the mystic. (S-80t)

★★★★★

GOAL! Vol. 1 #4 ($9.75/13 issues from 5885 State Farm Rd., Slingerlands, NY 12159): I wouldn't have thought there was enough soccer in this area to support a newspaper just for the sport, but here it is. Much of this of course is reporting on local teams and games, but there are a few articles of potential wider interest, including one on strategy and one on how to handle tough calls as a referee. (T-12t)

★★★★★

GODSEND #9-11 ($1 *CASH/MO* from Todd Zachritz, 1401 Fuquay Rd., Evansville, IN 47715): Mostly short stories (real short — three to a page in some cases), with a few music reviews thrown in around the edges. This stuff isn't particularly cheery, being full of drinking and driving and puberty and murder and suicide and other real-life bringdowns. Call them when you need to confirm a suspicion that life is crappy. Or if you can submit something along the same lines. (D-20r)

★★★★★

GOING GAGA #3 ($2 from Gareth Branwyn, 2630 Robert Walker Pl., Arlington, VA 22207): The "Notebooks of the Mind" issue of this "periodic newsletter of art, information and noise", featuring diary excerpts from a few odd folks. There's also Patch Adams using about our societal hatred of smells, offbeat doodles, plans for future issues, and a generally wide-open attitude of hope for the coming cultural revolution. (HL-18t)

★★★★★

GOOD VIBES GAZETTE #V-VI ($2/yr from Good Vibrations, 3492 22nd St., San Francisco, CA 94110): I suspect this one is mostly for customers of these mail-order and storefront purveyors of "good sex literature" and "good sex toys", but they'll put you on the mailing list if you send $2 for their catalog. It updates their product lines, keeps track of various frightening censorship news, and includes tidbits from the sex research field. Refreshingly open and honest. (S-6t)

★★★★★

THE GRABINSKI READER #4 ($2.50 from Teawood Publications, PO Box 2398, New York, NY 10009): This periodical devoted to the work of little-known horror writer Stafan Grabinski takes a side trip with #4. Rather than print more of Miroslaw Lipinski's skillful translations, it is devoted to a critical essay by Paul Kesler, who looks at the author in the context of his radical subjectivity and neurotic tendencies. (HL-16r)

★★★★★

G'RAFFITI Vol. II #4-6 ($5/12 issues from Camelopard Society, PO Box 16898, San Diego, CA 92116): The Camelopards are secessionist MENSAns, and this is a very friendly and funny journal with a number of clever columnists. I especially enjoyed the list of uses for a Mensan in #5. They also publish puzzles, reviews, opinion pieces and a local calendar. (S-24t)

NERF?
OOGLE!
Clan of the Care Bear
Matt Fowler

★★★★★

GRAY MATTER #5 ($2 (?) from 4510 Duval St. #108, Austin, TX 78751): A music zine which also stresses independent thought and social action. For example, there's an interview with Skipp Porteus of THE FREEDOM WRITER in this issue, along with more expected chats with folks like Prong and Pron Orchard. They also review an impressive number of records and tapes, with special attention to demos. Bands are invited to answer their 15 "generic interview" questions as well. A nice package with plenty to chew on. (S-68t)

★★★★★

GREAT LAKES BEAT Vol. 3 #3 ($1 (?) from Tim Lostetter, 302 W. Wilson St. #1, Madison, WI 53701): A rock music tabloid that sticks to classic sounds. The most interesting part to me is the 30-year discography from the Madison area. They also feature chats with folks from bands like the Buckinghams and American Breed who are back together and trying to make it again. (T-8t)

★★★★★

THE GREENHELL GAZETTE #6 ($1 from PO Box 6687, Albany, NY 12206-6687): This is our local *really* alternative tabloid, designed to offend most everyone. This one has ads to distress the Catholics, a Jef Deth story to enrage anyone with a respect for life, and White Boy poems to catch anyone left. There's also some local political news (editor Jon Drucker is running for Mayor of Albany this year), comics, and book reviews. (T-12t)

★★★★★

GREEN MULTILOGUE Vol. 4 #2 ($6 from 390 Jones Ave., Toronto, ONT M4J 3G3, CANADA): An apa for the discussion of Green philosophy and politics. There is a fair amount of stuff on internal Canadian Greens power struggles, which may be opaque to outsiders, but there are also people working to develop ideas on, for example, just what "sustainable" means. Feminism, networking and the ethics of having kids are among other current topics. (S-56)

★★★★★

GREEN PERSPECTIVES #15 ($1 from PO Box 111, Burlington, VT 05402): A voice for social ecologists active in the Green movement. In #15 Murray Bookchin continues to investigate the meanings and consequences of modern-day Malthusianism, implicit in many conceptions of Gaia as a mystical organism in her own right. A cogent antidote to ecological misanthropy. In #16, Janet Biehl begins an examination of the relation between the democratic ideal and feminist analyses. (S-8t)

★★★★★

GREEN SYNTHESIS #30-31 ($10/8 issues from League for Ecological Democracy, PO Box 1858, San Pedro, CA 90733): A Green publication which chooses to limit its size and cover a wide spectrum of events and ideas without going into extensive depth on most of them. They review books, mention conferences and meetings, and publish some letters from various warring groups of Greens. #30 includes the first statement from the Green Youth Caucus, an expose of the group Green Future, and some thoughts from Arne Naess. #31 is largely filled with reporting and criticism on the new Left Green Network. (S-16t)

★★★★★

GRIND Vol. 1 #12-Vol. 2 #2 ($5/12 issues from Richard Green, PO Box 32, Old Bridge, NJ 08857): A single sheet of film opinions that comes out like clockwork. #12 looks at some underappreciated movies including *I, Madman*. #1 ranges from *Heathers* to the revolting *She's Out of Control*. (S-2)

★★★★★

GRINDHOUSE #5 (50¢ from Vincent Basilicato, 158 McDole Rd., Ellenville, NY 12428): The main focus here is on movies and video, although the longest article in #5 is a look at the career of musical madmen Barnes & Barnes. On the visual side we have the Hunchback of Notre Dame, Pet Semetary, and the new TV season. Lots of nice letters too. (D-24r)

★★★★★

GRINDHOUSE #3 ($5/yr from J. Adler, PO Box 74609, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163-6030): This film zine would be a handwriting expert's field day — let's just say that the ranting and printing here does not lead one to suspect the editors of being overtly balanced. They review all manner of exploitation and gore, right down to snuff flicks, from the environs of the sleaziest movie houses in New York. (D-12)

★★★★★

GRINNIK #1 ($1.75 from Joop, Burg. Kessensinjel C3, 6227 VH Maastricht, HOLLAND): A new collection of reprints about the sorry state of the world, from an anti-authoritarian perspective. The first issue includes a summary of Milgram's experiments, a reprint of Martti Koski's brain-control booklet, and news on BASF and its poor reputation. There's also an article on chemical warfare. (A5-52r)

★★★★★

GRUE #10 ($4.50 from Hell's Kitchen Productions, PO Box 370, Times Square Stn., New York, NY 10108-0370): A digest-sized horror fiction magazine with cutting-edge writing and wonderfully dark artwork (including a pair of great covers this time). This issue has a fairly high content of sexual horror, not bedroom olympics but rather stories where sex plays a major part. Eugene Marten's "Allures" stands out as a taut piece of psychological horror, building to an end that seems logical within the story but revolting from outside. Other authors include Bentley Little, Bruce Boston, Wayne Allen Sallee and Gregory Georgiou. (D-96t)

★★★★★

GRYPHON GAZETTE May 1989 (Probably on request from 211 Lambert Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94306): This is a promotional newsletter for Gryphon Stringed Instruments, a company which appears to be mainly into guitars. They do some plugs for things they're selling, give guitar advice tips, review music and announce events. Pretty well done. (S-4t)

★★★★★

GUIDELINES Vol. 2 #2 ($4 from Rural Box 608, Pittsburg, MO 65724): The heart of this small press market and support newsletter is their one-stop shopping service, providing guidelines for dozens of publications at a reasonable cost. But there's a lot more here: notes on who's buying and who isn't, lists of conferences, correspondence on how to write better stories or deal with rejection, and so on. They also review small press mags and books. (HL-34r)

★★★★★

H23 Spring 1989 ($1.50 from PO Box 592, Pullman, WA 99163): A new zine of "cognitive and aesthetic nourishment via the experimental arts. This includes mainly interviews in the first issue: Controlled Bleeding, Illusion of Safety, ND magazine, Arcane Device, and Philip Perkins. Reviews, a bit of history and a striking layout add to an impressive first issue. (S-30t)

★★★★★

HACK'D Vol. 6 #1 ($10/4 issues from PO Box 17640, Portland, OR 97217): Another one where the subtitle says it all: "The magazine for & about sidecarists". That is, folks into sidecars — you know, those funky things that hook on to the side of motorcycles. They feature lots of photos and ads, coverage of custom rigs and races and rallies, and generally seem to be a watering hole for one more unique community. (S-86t)

★★★★★

HALF DOZEN OF THE OTHER #2 ($2 (?) from Ken Greeley, 751 Hamilton St., Somerset, NJ 08873): A sort of seedy literary magazine. Well, no, the zine itself isn't seedy, but the chosen subjects of the poets and writers here often are: factory work, sex motels, pro-life protestors, and so on. A stark black and white jaundiced view of the world prevails, in which the poet can document but not change. (S-80t)

★★★★★

THE HAPPY THRASHER #8 ($1.50 from Tin-Ear, 2308 N. Sacramento St., Orange, CA 92667): A socially-conscious punk zine. Lots of music and zine reviews here; in fact, they make up the bulk of the pages. There are also interviews with a couple of Southern California bands (A// Solution and Glycine Max), plus a sprinkling of poetry, political news, and silliness. (S-22)

★★★★★

HARDCOPY FOR THE COMMON GOOD ($1 (?) from PO Box 1562, Troy, NY 12181-1562): Distributed free locally, this one tries to draw a lot of alternative and socially-responsible issues together into an attractive package. They range from veterans' issues to gay pride to Albany-area environmental problems, with an attractive layout and relatively short and simple pieces. (S-21t)

★★★★★

THE HARD REPORT #133 ($250/yr from 4 Trading Post Way, Medford Lakes, NJ 08055): An industry publication for rock and roll radio stations ($50 discount on your subscription if you're a radio person), tracking the latest major label music. They keep track of which albums are hot, with playlists, short reviews, and news from both stations and record companies. Now you know how they know what's supposed to be a hit. (L-62t)

★★★★★

HARVEST FORUM #8 ($10/yr from 22400 Skyline, Box 7, La Honda, CA 94020): A newsletter for folks interested in intentional communities but not yet a part of one. It mostly consists of travelogues and reports of visits to various groups that are taking either visitors or new members. #8 includes Shannon Farm, Twin Oaks, and the Foundation for Feedback Learning, among others. No firm answers here, but a lot of interesting questions. (S-17t)

★★★★★

HAUNTS #15 ($4.75 from Nightshade Publications, PO Box 3342, Providence, RI 02906): Nicely-presented tales of horror and fantasy. Among the fine stories here are the rather fantastic "Idee Fixe" by Frank Ward and William Rasmussen's deliciously scary "Lucky Thirteen". 9 stories in all, plus some poetry and commissioned art. (D-84t)

★★★★★

HEADLINES ($1 from Dave Mitchell, PO Box 5094, Winter Park, FL 32793-5094): Dave sent me a whole pile of these, but as the only one with a number is #8, I can't tell you which ones they are. It doesn't really matter, though, because these SubGenius zines are practically interchangeable, in the sense that they all have something to offer believers in the Muthah Church. A collage of new writing, stuff swiped from tabloids, Dobbsheads, comics, Arnold Palmer, and other mutant delights. [Late note: #14 just arrived, so at least we know what number the current issue is]. (S-12t)

★★★★★

HEADPUMP #11 (Free from PO Box 93, Bronx, NY 10461): A confusing medley of art, cranky poetry, and short prose. Images from a world going noisily mad, for the most part. The editorial policy is completely enigmatic as well. (S-12)

★★★★★

HEARTSONG REVIEW #6 ($3 from PO Box 1084, Cottage Grove, OR 97424): I'm always happy when someone does better than I in a particular field, and this publication is one shining example. For their topic, "New Age Music of the Spirit", there is none better. They print around 100 in-depth reviews of gentle and inspirational and women's and related music every issue, along with thoughtful letters and some networking stuff. #6 also includes an interview with Lisa Thiel. (S-55t)

★★★★★

HELPERS OF PLANET EARTH May-June 1989 ($2 from PO Box 1, Chicago, IL 60656): These folks are into networking various forward-looking individuals together. Their concerns include animal rights, healthy living, peace, education, and the environment. Short blurbs and reviews mix with reference addresses. (S-8t)

★★★★★

HERE AND NOW 7/8 ($6 (?) from Flatland Distribution, PO Box 2420, Fort Bragg, CA 95437-2420) A journal of the British intellectual left, which makes it mainly a collection of polemics and intensely theoretical pieces, such as Frank Dexter's long, wandering screed about nonviolence in this issue. Other topics range from the self-employment scam to the various artistic movements and their critics. I found it entirely too tedious to get interested in, but perhaps I'm simply too shallow. (A4-34t)

★★★★★

HERMIT CRAB #2 (SASE from Carl Bettis, PO Box 32631, Kansas City, MO 64111): A small and personal zine with a limited press run, "so if you catch me between issues you may have to wait a while". This time there are two reviews, some ruminations on death and afterlife, crab artwork, and a page headed "CRaB sCRawls" of experimental writing. (S-5t)

★★★★★

HE'S UGLY AND HE DOESN'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS #6 ($1 from John Bergin, 4503 Washington St., Kansas City, MO 64111): A departure for this text-and-art mini, as John illustrates the words of John Neihardt from **BLACK ELK SPEAKS**. John's harsh silhouette style does justice to this simple summary of white treachery towards Native Americans. A strong booklet. (M-44)

★★★★★

HIPPO #2 ($2.50 from Chautauqua Press, 28834 Boniface Dr., Malibu, CA 90265): A collection of poetry, prose and art, about in that order, and not too tied down by the usual literary conventions. Strange voices echo in the poetry of Steven Jacobsen and John McKinley. Stephen-Paul martin supplies a curious piece, while Seth Wade's "Party at Crazy Carl's" captures an odd bit of American life. Nothing too flashy here, but nothing too boring either. (D-44)

★★★★★

HIPPYCORE #6 ($1.50 from PO Box 195, Mesa, AZ 85211): A zine that successfully combines music and social issues. This time, for example, they have a couple of pages on soft energy paths and an interview with anarchist Fred Woodworth. There's also a ton of record and zine reviews, plus interviews with Neurosis, Negazione and other bands. Prejudice and skinheads are other subjects here. Well done and jammed full of interesting stuff. (S-62r)

★★★★★

HOBO STEW REVIEW #20 ($2 from 2 Eliot St. #1, Somerville, MA 02143): Fully half of this issue of this literary conglomeration is unaccustomedly serious, dealing with the Hobo's reflections on China in particular and the old order versus the young people in general. A few cartoons and a recipe for tapioca cream help lighten the load, though Red Onion's post-apocalypse prose lowers it again. (S-8)

★★★★★

HOLOCAUST FUTURE #2 (50¢ from Jeff Gregory, 3204 W. Chadwick Ln., Peoria, IL 61614): A mix of music, original art, and rambling. Jeff talks about socialism as a transition to anarchism, interviews 2 Car Family, runs some comics and drawings, and generally seems to have a good time. A mix that hasn't settled down yet but is getting better. (S-13)

★★★★★

Hornbrook, CA 96044): A still-impressive zine for those into alternative energy — mostly photovoltaic, though they get into wind, hydro and other sources as well. They feature no-nonsense product reviews and notes on various installations, together with extensive price analyses and a fair number of useful ads. #11 has a couple of fascinating articles on solar architecture and a new product that makes watering batteries a lot less of a chore. (S-47t)

★★★★★

HOMO SAPIENS #5 (L. 15,000/yr from CP 705, 70121 Bari, ITALY): If you don't have any lira, try IRCs. This is a journal of anarcho-communist analysis and opinion, full of articles that look like they might be fascinating. Third world debt and surrealism are two of the topics in this issue. As with most Italian anarchist zines, the graphic design is striking. (S-64t)

★★★★★

HORIZONS UNLIMITED #37 (50¢ & Age Statement from Nancy Spriggs, 7395 Hillside Turn, Mt. Airy, MD 21771): #37 actually lives up to the subtitle of "the adult illustrated phantasy newsletter", as it is primarily made up of racy and erotic art by Tisch. This includes both male and female nudes, mostly well-built, and drawn in a variety of stules. (S-8)

★★★★★

HOT STOPS #9-11 ($2 from Michael Dodson, PO Box 1333, Lombard, IL 60148): This one started out as a Led Zeppelin fanzine, but it's gradually expanded to provide an outlet for fans of all sorts of music, from Fairport Convention to Ozzy Osbourne. There's space for record reviews, show reports, and ads for everything from tape traders to Jimmy Page zines. More enthusiasm than contents at the moment, but trying hard to grow. (S-10)

★★★★★

A HOUSE UNITED AGAINST ITSELF ($1 (?) from Rev. Etc., PO Box 4431, Ann Arbor, MI 48106): This does not seem to have quite the manic intensity of previous issues. The Rev. still manages to insult and offend a batch of people with his short essays, which tend to look at the world a bit differently than most people do. The spiritual undercurrents are still strong but less evident. (D-20)

★★★★★

HOUSEWIFE-WRITER'S FORUM Vol. 2 #2 ($3 from Deborah Haeseler, PO Drawer 1518, Lafayette, CA 94549): One of the best writers'-support magazines I receive (and there are a lot of them these days!). Directed at those who write, raise kids, and maintain the house, it contains market news, inspiring short essays, and a fair chunk of poetry and prose. Plenty of chuckles and true-life stories, as well as good solid advice and a professional look. (HL-32t)

★★★★★

THE HUDSON VALLEY GREEN TIMES Vol. 9 #3 ($15/yr from Green, PO Box 208, Red Hook, NY 12571): A local environmental action paper. There are plenty of articles on solid waste, oil spills, incinerator ash, organic farming, and other hot issues of the day. While the focus is on the Hudson Valley, there are also notes of national interest — such as the advice on low-impact camping in #3. (T-16t)

★★★★★

HUMANIST NEWS Vol. 3 #6 (50¢ (?) from Bernie Schatz, 4418 Josephine Ln., Robbinsdale, MN 55422-1328): A small newsletter of humanist thought. There's some gentle fun-poking at the bible, comments on the unfairness of the insurance industry, and notes on various events about town. (S-4t)

★★★★★

ICEPICK MAGAZINE #1 (50¢ from c/o Krouse, RD #2 Box 166, New Castle, PA 16101): A new minizine of fiction and stories. I wouldn't quite call it literary; these vignettes range from pointless to sleazy. Still, there are some thoughts here, it doesn't take long to get through, and perhaps you need a quick scare at lunch some day. (M-8)

★★★★★

ICE RIVER #4 ($2.50 from 953 N. Gale, Union, OR 97883): A literary journal which concentrates on "speculative writing": the cutting edge, in other words. The prime example here is Brian Stableford's story "The Growth of the House of Usher", somewhat low in traditional plot but high in reader interest. Bruce Boston's poem "america comes" is experimental in a different way, almost Yeatsian but definitely modern. Other contributors include Lucius Shepard, Ursula Le Guin, Ivan Arguelles, and Michael Chocholak, who reviews the best experimental and new music. (S-40t)

★★★★★

IDEAS AND ACTION #11 ($2 from WSA, PO Box 40400, San Francisco, CA 94140): The tabloid paper of the Workers Solidarity Alliance, a syndicalist organization. While they have plenty of ideas (chiefly about the evils of capitalism), most of the action appears to be taking place in other places or other times: Poland and Spain today or Italy in the 1920s, for example. Plenty of international labor news and cheerleading here, but I don't see any alternatives I personally find attractive. (T-24t)

★★★★★

IDEOLOGY OF MADNESS #9 ($1 (?) from PO Box 166031, Irving, TX 75016): A SubGeniius publication, which, however, has repudiated Ivan Stang and the Mutha Church as agents of the "Invisible Conspiracy". Inside are zine reviews, a post-death interview with Andy Warhol, a Rushdie short story, and general nonsense of various sorts. (HL-16)

★★★★★

I DON'T WANNA Vol. 1 #1 (15¢ & a stamp from The Mango, Apt. #18B Beal's Cove Rd., Hingham, MA 02043): A new and very small music zine. The main feature in the premiere issue is an interview with Toe Jam, a band that was even then in the process of breaking up. Also features some music reviews and a fascination for Gary Glitter and the Bay City Rollers. (S-5)

★★★★★

IF IN DOUBT... (2 IRCs from Brian Duguid, 67 Delgaty Crescent, Turriff, Aberdeenshire, AB5 7GD, UK): A zine of whatever happens to interest Brian, in his personal life or the world at large. It's twice-written, with the main zine taking up 3/4 of each page and later commentary added below — an interesting way to capture the process of writing. Topics include the Church of Scientology, the possible effects of pot, freedom of the press, short poetry, and subliminal programming. Lots of interesting letters from friends too. (A5-32r)

★★★★★

THE IIIRD I #1 (75¢ from PO Box 1511, Bellingham, WA 98227): A new forum for the discussion of spirituality, religion, metaphysics and worldviews. For a somewhat higher price ($10/yr) you can participate in this apa rather than watching from the sidelines. The first issue is rather slim and poorly printed in spots, but includes intriguing essays from Jaymes Douglass Fyr and Rev. Salamandrya, as well as a bit of Erisianism. (D-16r)

★★★★★

THE ILLINI JOURNAL Vol. 1 #1 ($! (?) from PO Box 2145, Stn. A, Champaign, IL 61825): Apparently in reaction to the new wave of conservative campus papers, this is a liberal campus paper. They lead off with a pile of editorial content, including a denunciation of George Bush for his future reneging on the "no new taxes" pledge. Then there are stories on tritium, the Dartmouth Review case, and S&Ls, as well as some music reviews. (T-8t)

★★★★★

THE IMPERFECT PITCH Vol. 1 #1 (On Request from Greg Evason, 912 Broadview Ave., Toronto, ONT, M4K 2R1, CANADA): A collection of snippets of experimental writing, or experimental meta-writing (i.e., thoughts about the process), culled from all ages. Nietzsche, Kerouac, Gertrude Stein, Jake Berry, F.A. Nettelbeck — all are represented here, in this zine of "Words that Don't Stay Words".(S-5)

★★★★★

INCITE! #14 (Free from Tim Alborn, PO Box 649, Cambridge, MA 02238): A pleasant little zine loosely centered on new music but wandering around a good deal. There's a two page spread on the original Slinky in here, for example, and another on fanzine reviews as a board game. Tim also reviews a handful of records and a poetry reading, and plugs Some Velvet Sidewalk. (D-12t)

★★★★★

INCOHERENT #12 ($1 & a stamp from Mitzi Waltz, 3628 Santiago, San Francisco, CA 94116): A collection of interesting stuff from the info-swamp that is the Bay Area. Mitzi comments on bad phone hold music (she works for a computer mag), interviews alternative programmer Tom Jennings, and gets some other folks to write about the latest music. There's also another chapter from her novel, set in the new music scene. Fun stuff. (S-10t)

★★★★★

IN CONCERT Vol. 1 #4 ($18/12 issues (checks to "cash") from PO box 1386, Venice, CA 90294): A club- and musician-oriented music tabloid. They review live shows and recorded music from promising unsigned acts, as well as doing stories on successful artists like Little Feat. They also print stuff of interest from the business side: advice on dealing with college radio and on copyrights in this issue. (T-24)

★★★★★

THE INDEPENDENT May 1989 ($45/yr from AIVF, 625 Broadway, 9th Fl., New York, NY 10012): This is the house organ of the Association of Independent Video and Filmmakers, a progressive group of movie folks. They track public and private support for independent films and report on major areas of uproar. This issue includes a report from a film festival in Leningrad and a look at documentaries by Latin American women. (S-44t)

★★★★★

THE INDEPENDENT ATHEIST Vol. 5 #1-2 ($18/yr from PO Box 470561, Chicago, IL 60647): A collection of atheist and freethought essays. #1 includes an examination of a blood-drenched Biblical verse and refutation of pro-life arguments. The main feature in #2 is the first installment of William Clifford's classic case for the immorality of belief without sufficient evidence. The good of disillusionment and a debate over the death penalty are also featured. (HL-16t)

★★★★★

INDEPENDENT GLOBALLY #4 ($2.50 from Erik Vonx, IBB 21-3, 3582 VD Utrecht, NETHERLANDS): A Dutch music zine that interviews mostly European bands. Their main focus seems to be hardcore, though there is a lot of ska stuff here as well. Vernon Walters, Soulside, The Business and Hanson Brothers all get interviews in this issue. The collaged punk layout also makes room for a few live, record and zine reviews. (A4-30)

★★★★★

INDIA

One of my subscribers just returned from a lengthy trip to India, and he brought back a pile of zines for me. Some of these are a bit old, but I'm fairly sure they're all in business. I'll give overseas prices where they're

Past 16
A SECOND CHILDHOOD SOUNDS GOOD TO ME MAYBE I'LL TRY ONE IF I GROW UP.
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YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO GO TO THE SHOWS YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO BUY STUPID CLOTHES

listed; otherwise, your best bet is probably to send a couple of IRCs with any inquiry.

•**ALTENRATIVE NETWORK LETTER** Vol. 4 #2-3 (Equitable Tourism Options, 96, H Colony, Indiranagar Stage I, Bangalore 560 038, INDIA): "A Third World Tourism Communication and Information Alternative". These people are among the many pointing out the evils of conventional tourism, from economic to environmental harm. However, they go beyond this to grapple with the question of how guests can behave better, recommending things to do and avoid, not just in India, but in the surrounding lands as well. (S-8t)

•**THE AUROVILLAGE COMMUNICATOR** #15-17 (Village Action c/o Centre, Auroville 605101, INDIA): Light and chatty news from the Auroville area, scene of a variety of social and community initiatives and experiments. This has somewhat the feel of a church bulletin or Christmas letter, with notes on who's been up to what project lately. (L-5)

•**AUROVILLE TODAY** #4 ($15/12 issues from AVI USA, PO Box 162489, Sacramento, CA 95816): That's the US contact for this paper, published at the Auroville intentional community in India. It was founded in 1968 under the guidance of a woman known simply as "Mother", and has come through a lot of changes to be vibrant and work with the local villagers these days. #4 contains a history of the project as well as some thoughts on future directions. (T-8t)

•**AUROVILLE REVIEW** #23 ($20/2 issues from Aspiration, Auroville, Kottakuppam-605104 (Tamil Nadu), INDIA): And yet one more from Auroville. This one hints at some infighting in the community between those who want it to become just a place to live and those maintaining a radical vision. Interviews and essays that give some of the flavor of the place. (S-25t)

•**BANYANS & PALMYRAS** #3 (Jan, Fertile, Auroville, T.N. 605101, INDIA): A newsletter from some Aurovillians whose main concern is reforestation of some particularly bleak land. They sound hopeful but realize there is lots of work ahead. The newsletter is printed on handmade recycled paper, giving it an elegant feel. (L-6)

•**BHARATI YOUTH WELFARE BULLETIN** #255-256 (Rs. 10/- per year from YLRC Campus, Buldana 443001, INDIA): This one is rather opaque to me, since it is mainly concerned with internal Indian politics. There are various opinion pieces, proposals for town planning and youth activities, and teachings from Gibran included. (S-8t)

•**FROM THE LAWYERS COLLECTIVE** Dec. 1988 ($50/yr from 818, Stock Exchange Towers, Dalal Street, Bombay 400 023, INDIA): A law magazine for the Indian people. They explain various laws and procedures, offer advice on getting better treatment, and examine important decisions in the courts. They also print amusing anecdotes alongside the serious stuff. (S-32t)

•**LOKAYAN BULLETIN** Vol. 4 #2-6 (13 Alipur Road, Delhi 110054, INDIA): A political journal promoting a discussion between activists of many stripes. They seek "a new ideological crystallisation for a decentralised democratic order which respects the cultural and social diversity of marginalised sections of society." #6 is a special issue on the women's movement, both in India and abroad. (D-104t)

•**MANUSHI** #49 ($19/6 issues from C/202 Lajpat Nagar I, New Delhi 110 024, INDIA): This "Journal About Women in Society" is very well done, comparing favorably in its analyses with US feminist journals I've seen. That's all the more impressive considering the nature of the societies (Indian and surrounding) they deal with. Interviews, articles, news bits and letters combine with photos and a clean layout to produce something at once thoughtful and attractive. (S-44t)

•**PEOPLE'S REPORTER** Vol. 2 #2 ($30/yr from 66, Nandidurg Extension, Fourth Road, Bangalore 560 046, INDIA): Like most papers with the word "People" in the title, this one appears to be at least Communist-influenced. Unlike the U.S. versions, though, it's not overwhelmingly labor news. Instead, there is much commentary on mainstream social and political news, as well as some novel proposals. (T-8t)

•**VOICE OF ALTERNATIVE** Vol. 4 #9-12 (Rs. 300/yr from 36, Mochi Bagh, Nanakpura, New Delhi, INDIA): Political commentary from a generally leftist position. I'm not especially knowledgeable about Indian politics, but there seem to be at least two Communist parties and several socialist ones involved, and they all pop up here. (S-30t)

★★★★★

THE INDUSTRIAL WORKER Mar.-Apr. 1989 ($2/6 months from IWW, 3435 N. Sheffield #202, Chicago, IL 60657): The newspaper of the Wobblies, more formally known as the Industrial Workers of the World. They're into a variety of organizing practices centered on a radical approach to unionism. The March issue continues their support for Earth First!; April is a special "Women's Issue", with articles from old Wobs and new. (T-12t)

★★★★★

INNER DIMENSIONS Vol. 1 #3 ($10/12 issues from 1012 14th St. NW, Washington, DC 20005): A relatively new New Age tabloid that seems ready to include most anyone under its wing, from holistic hay fever treatments to witches denied their religion in prison. There's a strong undercurrent of environmentalism here as well as the usual things that skeptics hate and a DC-area calendar. (T-16t)

★★★★★

INSIDE ENVIRONMENT #1 ($18/yr from PO Box 13061, Lexington, KY 40583-3061): A new enviornmental newspaper dedicated to striking a balance between envirpnmental and business issues. It's going to be hard to satisfy anyone this way, but from the initial issue, it looks like the businessmen will be happiest. Most articles are concerned with the impact of regulation on profitability, or, as with the one on global warming, caution research rather than immediate action. (T-16t)

★★★★★

INSIDE JOKE #68-69 ($1.50 from Elayne Wechsler, PO Box 1609, Madison Sq. Stn., New York, NY 10159): A long-running alternative literary zine which pays attention to movies and comics and TV as well as publishing strange little stories and cartoons. Regular columnists include JP Morgan, Anni Ackner, and Ho Chi Zen, among many other distinguished zanies. #68 has a few Abbie Hoffman tributes and more of "Another Damn Space Opera"› (S-32r)

★★★★★

THE INSIDER #2 (SASE (?) from Teo Graca, PO Box 4542, Arlington, VA 22204): A pamphlet-style zine designed to be handed out free locally, this one is dedicated to the Arlington-area music community. It's mostly updates on what projects various folks are up to, along with classified ads. They also sell a few tapes of hard-to-get music directly. (S-2r)

★★★★★

THE INSIDER GUN NEWS Vol. 3 #5-7 ($50/12 issues from The Gunpress Publishing CO., PO Box 3257, Alexandria, VA 22302-3257): A roundup of all the news from the gun industry and the politics surrounding it. #5 details the moves the gun manufacturers are making in the face of the current furor over automatic rifles. #6 points out that despite Bush's bold statements no firearms have been actually banned nationally as yet. (S-4)

★★★★★

INSIDE-OUT Vol. III #4 ($10/yr from CUPR, PO Box 122, Pequonock, CT 06064): The newsletter of Citizens United for Prison Reform. Right now their main focus is on information gathering and education, but they have strong ideas about reforming the system to make it more humane and more efficient. Death penalty opposition and demands for the whole way society thinks about crime seem to be their main themes. HL-8)

★★★★★

THE INSOMNIAC #17 ($15/4 issues from Lynne Parcells, 1310 Sussex St., Portage, MI 49002): A "Journal of Opinion and the Arts", which leads off with some snide writing, most notably Bailey Hankins' schemes to offend everyone and Kenneth O'Meara's fictional story of a rock concert to get rid of the dregs. Later on comes the letter column, largely devoted to laying bare the sins of some of the powers that be within Mensa. Always fun and always irreverent. (HL-62t)

★★★★★

INSTAURATION Vol. 14 #6-7 ($4 from Hoawrd Allen Enterprises, PO Box 76, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920): A slickly produced journal for the "vanishing Majority" of white Americans of Northern European heritage. They are a central meeting point for those who wish to preserve this culture, which often overlaps with those who are racist, homophobic, or downright nasty. But the publishers at least appear to be sincere, and they print stories of revisionism and stupidity the mainstream press refuses to touch. (S-36t)

★★★★★

INSTEAD OF A MAGAZINE #46 ($6.50/4 issues from PO Box 433, Willimantic, CT 06226): A thoughtful if somewhat infrequent anarchist magazine. This issue leads off with thoughts on feminism from a few anarchists (including yours truly) and then moves on to other pastures. Topics include atheist anarchists, how to tell if you're part of the privileged class, prison support, and the lunacy of wearing nexkties. Relaxed and human. (D-36)

★★★★★

INTERNATIONAL ADVERTISER 24-89 ($3 from J. Poms, PO Box 272, A-1090 Vienna, AUSTRIA): A worldwide "big mail" newsletter, with ads from people who want to get rich from all over. It concentrates on folks who will print and/or distribute your ads to their own mailing lists around the world. (S-8r)

★★★★★

INTERRACIAL CLUB OF BUFFALO NEWSLETTER May-July 1989 (Sample for 50¢ SASE from PO Box 400, Amherst Branch, Buffalo, NY 14226): A support group for interracial families — including those who have adopted or married those of other races. They offer a variety of local events and are tied in to some larger national groups. The newsletter tracks media mentions of such families and gives occasional bits of historical interest. (S-12)

★★★★★

INTERVENTION #21/22 ($16 from Flatland Distribution, PO Box 2420, Fort Bragg, CA 95437-2420): A thick paperbound book with the subtitle "Flesh", filled with chewy essays. Nothing here is easy going and some (the analysis of a Bob Hawke TV appearance, for example), is so closely tied to the magazine's Australian origin to be nearly incomprehensible. But there are plenty of other views on the body and its meaning, as expressed in film, or self-defense, wrestling, and bodybuilding, or the law, or the wors of Foucault. Real heavy stuff, suitable for an extended mulling over. (S-112t)

★★★★★

IN THE PINK Vol. 2 #10 (£3/12 issues from 37 Thorp St., Birmingham, B5 4AU, UK): Obviously you should send somewhat more than that for an overseas subscription. This is "The Newspaper for Lesbians & Gay Men in the West Midlands", and while small it is rather packed with information. They publicize and then report on events in the gay community. They also give a whole raft of contact numbers for various organizations and support groups. (A4-10r)

★★★★★

INTUITIVE EXPLORATIONS Vol. II #11-Vol III #1 ($2 from Gloria Reiser, PO Box 561, Quincy, IL 62306-0561): It would not be far wrong to see this as a magazine of everything that CSICOP hates: astrology, channeling, karma, psychometry, cabala and so on. The writers are believers in one or more of these esoteric phenomena, and try to explain and teach them to readers as best they can. Lots of love and light. #12 touches on everything from special numbers to the "Psychic Bible". (S-23)

★★★★★

INVERTED BLAKE ($10 plus $3 p&h from Inverted-A, 401 Forrest Hill, Grand Prairie, TX 75051): A collection of short stories and filks from the Blake's 7 world. If I'd ever seen the show I could probably do a better review, but as it stands all I can tell you is that there's a lot here, that other Inverted-A publications have been well-written, and it looks like fun. If anyone else has a copy and wants to offer an opinion, drop me a line. (S-100t)

★★★★★

ISRAEL IDENTITY FELLOWSHIP Vol. 5 #1-2 (Donation from Ken and Ann Stoddard, PO Box 427, Coquille, OR 97423): Fairly mild rightwing stuff with clear ties to the Aryan Nations sort of "stand up for our white rights" movements and holocaust revisionism. Their style is to present rapdi-fire paragraphs on a variety of topics, sort of like **FROM THE MOUNTAIN** does. A good source of addresses for other far-right groups and publications. (L-8)

★★★★★

IT'S #9 ($2 from Sheila Gibson, 20 Shady Ln., Nashua, NH 03062): The only Monty Python fanzine around — or at least the only one I know of, and a darned good one at that. The main feature in this issue is an interview with Terry Gilliam about the Baron Munchausen film. There's also a chat with longtime Pythonite Kim Howard Johnson, cartoons, a nomination form for Python awards,. and general silliness. (S-28t)

★★★★★

IT'S MORE THAN JUST A REHEARSAL FOR MURDER (75¢ from Average Day Comics, c/o Carrie Jo, 65 Upland St., Worcester, MA 01607): A light mix of subjects, including skateboarding monsters, comics, local scene news, and bizarre politics. Doug Chapel had a hand in this, and it shows in the layout and some of the drawings. Brett Ackerman contributes an especially gross restaurant story. (D-12)

★★★★★

IT'S ONLY A MOVIE Vol. 4 #3-4 ($14/yr from Michael Flores, PO Box 14683, Chicago, IL 60614): All sorts of low culture here, centered on (but not limited to) films. #3 has a raft of pages devoted to Batman on the occasion of his 50th anniversary, running down all the special projects in the works. #4 is mostly focused on blaxploitation. (D-24t)

★★★★★

JAG Vol. 27 #5-6 (On Request from R.S. Jaggard MD, 10 E. Charles, Oelwein, IA 50662): A broadside of free enterprise from a physician who is drawing a firm stand against participating in socialized medicine — to the extent of refusing medicare payments. #5 reiterates his stand and reasons for this. #6 continues in this vein, asserting that it is possible for both physicians and patients to opt out of Medicare. (L-1)

★★★★★

THE JAMES WHITE REVIEW Vol. 6 #4 ($2.50 from PO Box 3356, Traffic Stn., Minneapolis, MN 55403): A tabloid literary magazine for gay men. There's a historical bent to several of the stories in this issue, drawing parallels between gay life as it was decades ago and as it might become. There's also a special book review section, excerpts from a photo book of AIDS survivors, and mush poetry. (T-20t)

★★★★★

JAPAN JOURNAL Jan./Feb. 1989 ($32/yr from 50 Main St., White Plains, NY 10606): This is the international edition of TOKYO JOURNAL, and seems primarily aimed at those who want to or need to visit Japan without knowing Japanese. It's got extensive guides to things to see and do in Tokyo, lots of ads for places that teach Japanese, and plenty of colorful pictures and short articles about the latest trends in that culture. (S-112t)

★★★★★

A JAR BY THE DOOR Premiere Issue ($5 from Bureau of Jars, PO Box 10707, Arlington, VA 22210): This is something like a satirical version of PEOPLE or TIME magazines. There are articles about folks like Charles Kuralt or Malcolm Forbes, the latest physic theories, or the prospect of harnessing escaltors for power, which gradually devolve into utter nonsense. If you're a straightforward thinker this one will give you fits. (S-61t)

★★★★★

JERSEY BEAT #37 ($1.50 from Jim Testa, 418 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, NJ 07087): Still going strong, this music zine has just made the leap to newsprint and 2-color covers. Pretty neat looking, actually. This is almost an all-hardcore isue, with interviews with Agnostic Front, Underdog, and Youth of Today. Also, as the cover proclaims, there are "Lots of photos and too many reviews" (though not by my standards, I hasten to add!). (S-40t)

★★★★★

JERSEY BEAT CONFIDENTIAL Summer 1989 ($1 (?) from Jim Testa, 418 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, NJ 07087): All the music that doesn't fit in Jim's regular zine (see above). This time that's Dave Run It's wedding (celebrated with pictures and 3 whole pages of his scene cartoons) and a discussion of Scum Rock. There's also some more record reviews and a quick chat with Yogi and the Sweat Band. (S-10r)

★★★★★

JUICY SNAP #1 (50¢ from Eric Fisher, 271 Hendrix Pl., Philadelphia, PA 19116): A zine of gross little short stories, somewhere between funny and disgusting. Eric displays a healthy teenage fascination with snot, pubic hair, breasts and other locker room subjects. Should be a big hit with the right crowd. (S-5)

★★★★★

JUNGLE BEAT #1 ($1 (?) from Rainforest Action Group, c/o SECS, 1001 S. Wright St., Champaign, IL 61820): A straightforward set of articles on the current destruction of the world's rain forests. Along with the bad news there are several ideas on what to do to put an end to this, primarily along the lines of pressuring politicians and bankers to cut it out. Handy one-stop information. (D-12t)

★★★★★

THE KANSAS INTELLIGENCER Vol. 3 #5-7 ($12/12 issues from R.W. Clack, 5524 Anderson Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502): A "monthly polemic" from a conservative point of view. #5 speculates on cold fusion and whether it will silence the "Disaster Lobby" (no, of course it won't). #6 goes after homosexual behavior, the UN, and affirmative action, along with some political targets. (L-2t)

★★★★★

KASSOUMAI #1-2 (1 IRC (?) from Bruno Pommey, 36 residence Jean Mace, 28-300 Mainvilliers, FRANCE): A single folded sheet of art. #1 is crayon drawings that look like they were done by a 4-year-old, which may be precisely the case. #2 has more adult subject matter, including a collage of naked women and some toilet humor. (A4-4)

★★★★★

KICKS #3-5 ($5 from PO Box 646, Cooper Stn., New York, NY 10003): A gargantuan annual zine dedicated to rock and roll music from before punk, before new wave, when there was only the purity of spirit and sound that's in our genes. #5 includes Hasil Adkins, Jerry Lee Lewis, Swamp Rats, Mamie Van Doren (they get into films & TV a bit too), Joe Clay, the Rivieras, and tons more. An incredible fine-print labor of love, with lots of photos of groups, rare albums covers, and labels. (S-100r)

★★★★★

KIDS LIB NEWS ($2 from 1619 N. Portland Blvd., Portland, OR 97217): The latest incarnation of Mycall Sunanda's collection of wisdom on childraising. He's into all sorts of hippy alternative things, baby massage, listening to kids, giving them rights, group parenting, and so on. A kaleidoscope of short articles, information, and excerpts from other works. (S-32t)

★★★★★

KILLER KUNG-FUN ENEMA NURSES ON CRACK #1 ($2 *CASH/STAMPS* from Peter Hassall, PO Box 27-432, Upper Willis Street, Wellington, NEW ZEALAND): With a title like that, how can you lose? This new zine is attempting to cross-fertilize several fandoms, notably that for science fiction and that for strange movies. There's a report on a Star Trek con, some anecdotes about nurses, kung fu and enemas, decisions from the NZ censorship board, and a few reviews. (A4-14)

★★★★★

KOEKRAND 84 (IRCs from Postbus 14767, 1001 LG Amsterdam, HOLLAND): This appears to be a zine of leftist politics and music, although its all-DUtch character makes it a tad hard to tell. This particular issue looks at Eastern Europe, including army life in East Germany and something about life in Poland. They feature Baboon Dooley, a column on Dutch fanzines, and film coverage as well. (A4-32t)

★★★★★

KONEKCION ROCK #1 ($2 from Luis Espinoza A., Los Varayocs 253, Zarate - 3ra. zona, Lima 36, PERU): A wide-ranging music zine from South America, published entirely in Spanish. They run from 7 Seconds and Jello Biafra to David Bowie and the Cure. There are also articles on the English punk scene, plus Sartre and Kafka. A few photos and reviews of other Peruvian zines also dress this up. Very nice looking for a first issue. (HL-27t)

★★★★★

KOUNTERKLOCKWISE #1 (Donation from Matt Moore, 539 J. Atlantic Ave., Williamstown, NJ 08094): This zine has lots of pages hand-colored with crayons, which sort of sets the mood for the written work it contains. It's literature of a sort, or maybe poetry — short blasts of thought and emotion, the words tumbling over one another in their haste to come out. Lots of strong feelings and a sense of right animate the writings here. (S-23)

★★★★★

KREATURE COMFORTS Vol. II #2-3 ($1.45 from 1916 Madison Ave., Memphis, TN 38104): This zine is moving heavily into music and 70's nostalgia these days, apparently having deduced it as the next coming thing — or actually *enjoying* 8-tracks and the Partridge Family, which may be worse. They have a lot of things (good and bad) to say about local radio, plus show, music and current events reviews. Formerly **KOOL THANGS**. (S-12t)

★★★★★

LA BANANE #7-10 (2F. from Bruno Pommey, 36, res. Jean Mace, 28300 Mainvilliers, FRANCE): Or, I suppose, a few IRCs to this country. A broadside of mail art and reviews, it's published in a mixture of French and

English. Besides reporting on upcoming shows and interesting periodicals, Bruno prints some interesting xerographic work. With #9 Bruno abandons the broadside format and prints almost entirely reviews and show listings. (O-2 & M-16)

★★★★★

L.A. JAZZ & ALTERNATIVE MUSIC Vol. 3 #22 ($20/12 issues frrom 12439 Magnolia Blvd. #254, North Hollywood, CA 91607): Just what the title says, a guide to jazz and associated forms of music in the greater Los Angeles area. In this issue they talk with Russ Freeman and Bill Bergman. Also lots of calendar listings so you can catch the local shows. (T-16t)

★★★★★

THE LAME MONKEY MAINFESTO Vol. 3 #17 ($1 from PO Box 8763, Knoxville, TN 37996-4800): With this issue, this alternative college paper joins the growing list of zines that have been refused by various printers. #17 is a nice issue, a mix of reprinted bests and new features, including a guide to the University of Tennessee campus for confused freshmen. Quite fun and proof that alternatives still exist. (T-20t)

★★★★★

LAND OF A THOUSAND BANDS #6 (SASE from Ellen Levitt, 1121 E. 22nd St., Brooklyn, NY 11210): A single sheet of (mostly) music reviews, focused solely on the indie scene. Ellen covers the latest from The Bags, C*nts, Byfist and more in this issue, in short (about the same length as mine) reviews. Cheerful reading. (S-1r)

★★★★★

THE LAST NEWS Vol. 3 #1 ($4.95/100 copies from Gospel Publishing House, Springfield, MO 65802): Essentially a newspaper update of the stereotypical "The End is Near" sandwich-boards for Christians who believe just that. 72-point banner headlines proclaim "Christ is Coming". Inside the basics of the tribulation & apocalypse are explained in news story style. The back page gives prayers to save you from the fire. Available only in multiples of 100 copies. (T-4t)

★★★★★

LAUGHING WHALE #3 (SASE for prospectus from PO Box 3987, Minneapolis, MN 55403): Yes, that's right, prospectus. This arty collection is available to participants only, so write if you want details. The fat spiral-bound zine is mostly visual, with plenty of hand-drawn or altered bits, but there are written works as well. A few of the many contributors: Luke McGuff, Freddie Baer, Monty Cantsin, Ruggero Maggi, Geof Huth, Erik Kosberg, Mic McInnis. A fascinating lump of flotsam. (D-70)

★★★★★

LEATHERNECK June 1989 ($15/yr from Marine Corps Association, PO Box 1775, Quantico, VA 22134): Yes, this really is a serious magazine for past and present members of the US Marine Corps, though they let anyone subscribe. It's fascinating as sociology; there are ads from major weapons manufacturers, people looking for old buddies, and stories about exciting heroic combat missions. I wonder how many Marines can afford the $995 commemorative pistol that's advertised here? (S-72t)

★★★★★

THE LEDGE #8 ($1 from Cindy Laufenberg, 321 Cokes Dr., Toms River, NY 08753): A zine which started out to cover its own local music scene and still makes that the main focus. The cover band for #8 is Third Party; the Trash Mavericks also set down for a chat inside. They review a selection of records and tapes from round and about, and finally get to their '88 poll results in this issue. (S-22)

★★★★★

LEFT BUSINESS OBSERVER #28-29 ($2 from 250 W. 85 St., New York, NY 10024-3217): Financial and business news from a progressive viewpoint and explained so that real people can understand it. #28 reports on the story (curiously ignored by the major media) of statistical hankypanky at the International Monetary Fund. #29 leads off with a left economic examination of the China crisis and profiles the Capital Cities/ABC media conglomerate. (S-8t)

★★★★★

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THE LEIGHTON MOVE May-June 1989 ($1 from Rodney Leighton, RR #3, Pugwash, NS B0K 1L0): Mostly wrestling opinions, but Rodney is also getting into reviews, with the addition of a supplement called THE LEIGHTON LOOK. He'll write about wrestling zines or tapes or other zines or whatever; he's not picky. Pretty relaxed and disorganized as yet. Wrestling and Canadiana are the main foci but that could change at any moment. (S-10)

★★★★★

LE LOJBO KARNI #9 ($1.20 from The Logical Language Group, 2904 Beau Ln., Fairfax, VA 22031): The English-language newsletter of the folks building and promoting Lojban, a synthetic logical language which I for one find quite fascinating. This newsletter acts to keep everyone up to date on language design and publicity efforts, and is a good introduction to what the community involved is doing. (S-14)

★★★★★

THE LETTER EXCHANGE #18 ($5 from PO Box 6218, Albany, CA 94706): "A Magazine for Letter Writers", with the primary goal of hooking up congenial people through a listing and confidential forwarding service. They also publish cute cartoons, much mail on the subject of letter-writing, and a few other odds and ends. For a small fee you too can locate more correspondents than you can possibly answer promptly. (D-36t)

★★★★★

LIBERTARIAN FAMILIST Vol. 8 #3-4 (On Request from 5205 Fairbanks #4, El Paso, TX 79924): A libertarian newsletter centered on issues of childrens' rights and family matters. #3 contains more on the ethics of abortion and the responsibilities of parents toward their children. #4 investigates two ways to approach Libertarianism: the "consequentialist" and "moralist" schools of thought. (S-8t)

★★★★★

LIBERTARIAN LABOR REVIEW #7. ($2.50 from PO Box 2824, Champaign, IL 61825): This anarcho-syndicalist journal may be rather confusing to novices, since it's in the thick of various movement arguments and battles — for example, you really need to know something about the CNT, the IWW, the WSA, and the IWA to understand some of this. On the other hand, anyone can understand the basic ideas about workplace organizing presented here and appreciate the labor news from grassroots movements around the world. Challenging but interesting. (S-48t)

★★★★★

LIFE IS A JOKE #4 ($1 from Joe Franke, 2288 Hawk, Simi Valley, CA 93065): A little medley of humor, silliness, and sickness. If you find things like literal drawings of "open your mind, open your heart, open your eyes" hilarious then this is the zine for you. My copy came with a minibooklet by Joe titled "Spoonful of Pus" and consisting of deranged teen diary entries (this is available separately for a stamp, if you'd like to sample his writing). (D-16t)

★★★★★

LIFE ON PLANET EARTH Vol. II #7 (SASE from Embassy of Planet Claire, PO Box 3194, Bellingham, WA 98227): J.C. Coleman's outlet for personal ranting. He tends to open up with a short science speculation (this issue's one on energy is a bit flawed, I think, in proposing entropy reversal as a benchtop process), then goes on to chat about whatever: hating saxophones, the look of his lava lamp, the tree fort he had as a kid. (S-4t)

★★★★★

LIFEPACT NEWS #1-5 ($1 from Lake Tahoe Life Extension Festival, PO Box 18698, South Lake Tahoe, CA 95706): Lifepact is a new organization for people seriously committed to cryonics, designed to balance the strengths of existing organizations. There are already ways to be sent into the future; Lifepact is designed to help reanimate, re-educate and rehabilitate you on arrival. #1&2 introduce the concept; #3 has drafts of the legal documents involved. #4 reports on Cryofest '89 and the official start of the group, up to 43 members already. (HL-20)

★★★★★

LIFEQUEST #5 ($3 from Imladris Corporation, PO Box 18690, South Lake Tahoe, CA 95706): A journal of fiction revolving around the theme of life extension, whether by cryonics, magic, or other means. Lee Corbin's "The Million Million Days", for example, tells the story of a man with essentially unlimited, but constrained, time, and what he does with it. "Looking Ahead", by Roberta Carpenter, suggests a possible path for bionic augmentation. The nice thing is that storytelling comes first and polemic a distinct second here. (HL-37)

★★★★★

LIFE-STUDIES #2-5 (Normally $3.50, but free while samples last if you mention FACTSHEET FIVE, from Ron Gestwicki, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Dept. of Religious Studies, Charlotte, NC 28223): This is an academic but not impenetrable forum dedicated to exploring the use of the "Intensive Journal", a means of disciplined writing developed by Dr. Ira Progoff and coming from holistic depth psychology. The basic idea is to develop an understanding of the meaning of life and humanness by examining lives in depth, both one's own and others. Looks like it could inspire one to hunt up Progroff's books and investtigate in more detail. (S-28t)

★★★★★

LIGHT & LIBERTY #2 ($10/4 issues from Lawrence E. Christopher, PO Box 33, Woodstock, NY 12498): An attempt to break new ground in political discourse, centering around the importance of liberty. Besides another essay from the editor, #2 features a lengthy letter from CRITIQUE publisher Bob

Banner, setting out his working hypotheses for dealing with the world. (S-11)

★★★★★

LIGHTWORKS #19 ($5 from PO Box 1202, Birmingham, MI 48012): Back after a long absence, this journal "illuminating new & experimental art" was, as always, worth waiting for. Among the features in this issue are ones on the art of A.M. Fine, Stewart Home on being Karen Eliot, and a whole section on art as recycling, looking at the use of trash and rubbish to create art. They print a variety of photos and reproductions of things that have flowed around the mail art network, and provide a section of contact addresses as well. Slick without being unfriendly. (S-56t)

★★★★★

THE LIL' RHINO GAZETTE #13 ($2 from KKR North, PO Box 14139, Arlington, TX 76094-1139): This issue of the LRG is mostly music, from the Circle Jerks to the Dead Milkmen. Lots of different reviews from a batch of people gives a wide field of records to graze through. There's also zine reviews, an anarchist perspective on drug use and a batch of underground and indie comics reviews. A vital chunk of the underground. (HL-42r)

★★★★★

LIP SERVICE #2 ($1 (?) from PO Box 32026, Shawnee Mission, KS 66212): Made to be handed out free in the clubs in an attempt to pump up the local music scene. Pretty basic stuff here: live reviews, a few columns of opinion, record reviews (by two people each), and an RKL interview. (S-23)

★★★★★

LITERARY MARKETS #45-46 ($12/6 issues from PO Drawer 1310, Pt. Roberts, WA 98281-1310): Another listing of markets for your prose and poems. They make no attempt to be exhaustive, instead concentrating on current new projects and changes of information. Contests and anthologies are included as well as periodicals. (S-6t)

★★★★★

LITTLE FREE PRESS #69 (Free from Rt. 2 Box 137, Cushing, MN 56443): The only hitch to getting this is that you have to promise to send at least two copies to other folks. LFP has been getting more contemplative of late, since Ernest Mann has explained the Priceless Economic System pretty thoroughly. Now he's wondering how to be happy, and examining the various choices for putting fun into his life without being part of the industrial megamachine. (S-4)

★★★★★

LITTLE SKULL'S BAY-BEE #9 (1 stamp from Carrie, 833 1/3 N. Formosa, Hollywood, CA 90046): A minizine of punk music and opinions. Carrie proposes a few topics in every issue and prints reader reactions in the next issue. This time around it's Posi Punk and Death Rock that folks get to talk about. Also includes cool underground art by Carrie, CE Emmer, and others. (M-8)

★★★★★

LIVE NUDE FACTS #1 (50¢ from Sherri Holloway, 807 Center St. #3, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130): From the hand-colored cover on back, this is an inscrutable publication. There's a strong streak of social consciousness through it, with homelessness and war spending being primary concerns. But these are set in a larger matrix of experimental stories and art. Sort of 21st century activism. (S-18t)

★★★★★

LIVING FREE #50-51 ($1.25 from Jim Stumm, PO Box 29, Hiler Branch, Buffalo, NY 14223): A newsletter of self-sufficiency and libertarian politics. Jim is interested in freedom via living simply and distantly from the state, and he prints a mix of sane articles and visionary near-ravings that contribute to this vision. #51 reports on Jim's successes in gardening on a largely-paved city lot. (S-8r)

★★★★★

LLEWELLYN NEW TIMES #893-894 ($2 from PO Box 64383, St. Paul, MN 55164-0383): The monthly catalog/newsletter of Llewellyn Publications, "The Western Hemisphere's Oldest Publisher of Astrology and New Age Books". They plug all their new works and list the old ones. There's also a few columns on things like Enochian magic or astrology. The back is filled with lots of small ads for other magical books and stuff. (S-80t)

★★★★★

LOADED QUESTIONS #1 (75¢ from Jon Hiltz, 421 Elm St., Westfield, NJ 07090): A new music effort that's mainly handwritten in the first issue, except for the long interview with Sticks & Stones. Jon also reviews zines and records, and gives us a rundown on the outrageous prices some 7" records are going for in the NYC area ($100 for the Agnostic Front "United Blood"?!). (S-24)

★★★★★

LOAFING THE DONKEY #25-26 ($1 & a stamp from Peter Mantis, 123 Stonewall #4, Memphis, TN 38104): A collection of writings on popular culture, from film to music and back. #25 has an interview with Mike Honeycutt, the man behind Mystery Hearsay. #26 includes Randy Russell talking to some other Ohio underground folks and a look at the music of the Crummy Fags. (D-24r)

★★★★★

LOCAL ENDEAVOR Vol. 3 #2-6 ($15/yr from PO Box 347, North San Juan, CA 95960): An inspiring tabloid of "Planetary News Advocating Personal Involvement" that covers a wide variety of issues. Animal rights and anti-nuclear organizing are staples (good coverage of the Peace Test in #5), along with holistic health and family psychology. #6 includes an article on punks which portrays them sympathetically — something I can't remember seeing before in the social justice press. (T-20t)

★★★★★

THE LOG CABIN #100 ($1 from Jerry Edwards, PO Box 881, Medical Lake, WA 99022): The newsletter of the MENSA Back-to-the-Land SIG (Special Interest Group). It's a place for rural Mensans and those hoping to join them to chat, swap useful information on things like greywater gardening and living fences, and look for help with particular problems. Small and friendly, and obviously doing a lot of things right to get to #100. (D-24r)

★★★★★

LOMAKATSI #4 ($2 (?) from Box 633, 1377 K St. NW, Washington, DC 20005): A zine of radical vegetarianism, opposition to industrial society, and spiritual growth — as well as other strands more difficult to entangle. #4 explores the possibility of vegetarianism as something other than renunciation, talks to alternative dramatist Rachel Rosenthal, and presents a short evolutionary playlet that smacks of original sin. (S-26t)

★★★★★

LONE STAR SOCIALIST #7 ($6/yr from Socialist Party of Texas, PO Box 2640, Austin, TX 78768): A mainline Socialist zine which has been getting larger and more interesting of late. They print a batch of labor news without trying to puff themselves up as the vanguard, discuss some basic socialism, and keep an eye on kindred movements like the Texas Greens. (S-8t)

★★★★★

LOOK AGAIN #1 ($3 from PO Box 1090, Hudson, NH 03051): A new music zine which intends to cover sincere bands from all genres — hoping to make people take a second look at bands they assume they wouldn't like. The premiere issue includes interviews with Sockeye, Leeway, Aversion, Hearing Impaired, Blind Surgeon and more, as well as over 100 record and tape reviews. (S-54)

★★★★★

LOOKOUT! #33 ($1 from PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): Alternative music and political coverage from Mendocino land. Lots of stuff here on how greedy rapacious corporations and stupid boring politicians are ruining the land, a fair bit on what the local and SF-Bay punk scene is up to, plus assorted humor and other odds and ends. Editor Lawrence Livermore keeps good track of what's going on, and I usually agree with his opinions. Besides, it's fun to watch the Establishment getting poked with sharp sticks. (S-32t)

★★★★★

LOSING FAITH #9 ($2 from PO Box 10533, Minneapolis, MN 55458): A collection of detailed, shocking and rebellious artworks. These range from explicit Pillsbury Doughboy sex shots to oils spills to dead rock stars — complete outlaw renditions. They also include a booklet of Paul Weinman's "White Boy" poems and true vomit stories submitted by readers. (HL-20)

★★★★★

THE LOST PERUKE May-June 1989 ($6/6 issues from 131-K Marina Dr., Edison, NJ 08817): A journal of topical humor that manages to work the occasional serious thought in. For example, the May issue suggests we should work on "Agnewfying" Dan Quayle — i.e., dig up dirt so that he'll resign before Bush can be impeached, so we don't have to face the prospect of a Quayle presidency. Other topics include the male menstrual cycle and the fate of various has-beens. June features a somewhat black bit of humor, "Peggy Sue Got AIDS". (D-30)

★★★★★

LUCID Vol. VIII #6-Vol. IX #1 ($6/6 issues from Dale Adams, 3041 Stanton Cir., Carmichael, CA 95608): "A forum for active discussion and debate on topics of philosophical and contemporary interest". In the two issues at hand, most of this discussion is directed towards the elusive notion of creativity: what is is, how to measure it, where it comes from. Grady Towers in particular delivers some interesting thoughts and examples of creative thinking. (D-20r)

★★★★★

THE MADISON INSURGENT Vol. 2 #16 ($15/yr from PO Box 704, Madison, WI 53701): A wide-ranging leftist alternative paper, produced collectively. Their concerns range from local politics (like a debate on greyhound racing) to US nuke policy in the Pacific to gay & lesbian rights to ecological disasters. Pretty solid reporting and a good mix in every issue. (T-8t)

★★★★★

MAGAPHONE #2 ($1 from Lee Markosian, 415 Capp St., San Francisco, CA 94110): A collection of rather distressingly raw writing and stark art. It's hard to tell whether the author's hold on reality is as tenuous as it seems or he is just good at looking at things sideways. Anyhow, in short literary blasts he talks to God or to people on the street, ranting about the significance of vomit, the creation of buildings, or the meaning of styrofoam. (D-24)

★★★★★

THE MANDOCRUCIAN'S DIGEST#13 ($2.50 from Niles Hokkanen, PO Box 1935, Martinsburg, WV 25401): Everything that the serious mandolin player could possibly want: reviews of albums, notes on good sources of written information, and plenty of sheet music and technical notes. The lead story in #13 concerns making the switch to an electric mandolin. Looks like a great resource for folks with more musical talent than I. (T-16r)

★★★★★

MANNEQUIN SOCIETY #1 (SASE from Nonoxynol-9, PO Box 7792, Rego Park, NY 11374): A somewhat cryptic downer zine, focused on death and alienation, though it doesn't use such large words to describe its vision of a society gone bad. A combination of collage and mystic revolution. Even includes pictures of mannequins. (D-4)

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MANUAL Vol. 1 #2 ($4 from The Process Press, PO Box 21944, Columbus, OH 43221-0944): A Temple ov Psychick Youth publication. It contains both some explanation of the group's aims — "Modern - HIGH TECH - Shamans" — and deeper pieces for those already initiated. These include comic strips and poems as well as traditionally structured essays. (S-40t)

* * * * *

MARGIN #8 ($20/4 issues from 46 Shepard St. #42, Cambridge, MA 02138-9837): A serious and weighty literary zine that still has a lot to offer. This is a "Special Bird Issue", and while the feathered creatures largely elude the writers and poets — there is little to do with the avian freedom but describe it — the illustrations are wonderful. Both John Digby's hallucinatory woodcut birds and Michel Devrient's slapstick "Phenix & Co." strips are well worth checking out. (S-96t)

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MARINE CORPS GAZETTE June 1989 ($15/yr from Marine Corps Association, PO Box 1775, Quantico, VA 22134): A serious journal for the thinking Marine (I realize some of you find that to be an oxymoron). They get heavy into what's right and wrong with the corps, what the latest tactical and strategic thinking is, and how to maintain readiness for combat at all times. Even more frightening than beef-industry trade magazines. (S-80t)

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mast July 1989 ($15/yr from RB Publishing, 6400 Gisholt Dr. #201, Madison, WI 53713-4800): A slick little magazine "for mailing & shipping professionals". Unlike many trade journals it's not priced out of reach, and might actually be of use to some larger zine publishers — say, those sending out 5000+ pieces of mail a month. They evaluate equipment for things like barcoding and sticking stamps and also report on the various ways to move things around by mail or courier companies. (S-64t)

* * * * *

MATT LUKIN'S LEGS #4 (35¢ from Joe Preston, 935 Patterson #5, Eugene, OR 97401): Sort of a garage fanzine, to go with the garage music so popular in the Pacific Northwest. This issue features interviews with the Melvins and Nirvana, as well as a few pages of record reviews. Lots of handwriting makes it slow going in places, but the energy and in-jokes show through. (D-16r)

* * * * *

THE MAUI UPDATE Vol. 3 #1-2 ($1.50 from Paradise Publications, 8110 SW Wareham, Portland, OR 97223): A newsletter of updates to the Paradise book **MAUI: A PARADISE GUIDE**. It features the latest news from the island of Maui: who's closed, who's opened, what good food costs in various places, what the latest tour deals are, and so on. With this and the guide you should be all set for a Hawaiian vacation. (S-4t)

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MAXIMUM ROCKNROLL #72-74 ($2.50 from PO Box 288, Berkeley, CA 94701): The classic punk music zine. There's enough regular features to put most zines to shame: columns, letters, interviews, scene reports, leftish news, classifieds, zine and movie and book and record reviews — and a lot of each of them. #72 includes Naked Raygun and 7 Seconds interviews.#73 has got a Crime interview and advice on booking a tour for bands. (S-128t)

* * * * *

MAX(ines)'S TWO PAGES #2 (Donation from Crystal Rain Research Agency, PO Box 174, Richland, GA 31825): This time around Maxine cuts loose with a bit of fiction, or perhaps "faction" would be more accurate, as it is clearly based on life in rural Georgia. The essential conflict in this story is between a school which feels itself superior to the people it allegedly serves and a way of life outsiders don't bother to understand. (S-2)

* * * * *

MEASURES OF CENTRAL TENDENCY #2 (50¢ from David G. Ross, 350A Lafayette Rd. #3C, Metuchen, NJ 08840): Well, this one's got some poetry (by the editor and John Bennett), some clippings from various mainstream pubs, and a rather offensive attitude towards women, as a "Jizz-Queens Commemorative Issue" might imply. Oh sure, it might be sophisticated satire, but it reads more like trying to pigeonhole women into a safe sex object role. (S-12)

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MEDICI COUCH ($1 (?) from Winged Monkeys, PO Box 0023, Miami, FL 33137): There doesn't really seem to be a lot of point to this collection of rambling prose and photocopied articles. The high point is the cartoon of "Sheep Killing Dog", which is at least stylistically interesting. The rest is disposable, not even displaying the SubGenial charm this publication use to have. (S-12)

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MEN TALK Vol. 13 #1 ($2.50 from The Men's Center, 3255 Hennepin Ave. S. #45, Minneapolis, MN 55408): Minneapolis is one of the few cities that can support a project such as this. The Men's Center is for men trying to reconstruct themselves into fuller human beings. In part this consists of acting non-sexistly, but it also includes getting in touch with a sort of archetypical maleness. Lots of thoughtful articles here, and a calendar of twin cities events. (S-24t)

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MESECHABE #3 ($10/yr from 7725 Cohn, New Orleans, LA 70118): Though the subtitle here is "Greening and Re-inhabiting the Mississippi River Watersheds", the thrust of this issue is more towards theory and history than current act5ion. One interesting half-exception is Robert Nichols' "Literature of Alternatives", which considers the theory/practice imbalance in social ecology. Also of note is the article on the Green movement in Columbia. (S-32t)

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MESSAGE POST #25 ($1 from Light Living Library, PO Box 190, Philomath, OR 97370): A simple newsletter for those who want to live simply in the wild — not just camping, but actually dwelling in a portable fashion. The editors and readers swap advice on everything from tents to homemade moccasins to long term storage of food and books. Many useful reprints from back issues are also available. (D-20r)

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METAL MELTDOWN #6 ($1.50 from PO Box 824, Severna Park, MD 21146): "Straight from the infernal wasteland", says the cover of this heavy metal music zine, and that's probably good enough to upset hundreds of parents. Editor Jeff VanderClute leads off with a batch of news items and a playlist compiled from reader votes before getting into interviews. Agnostic Front, Metal Church, Dark Angel, and tones of reviews grace this issue, with a sprinkling of pictures and profanity. (S-44)

* * * * *

METRO #54-55 ($1 (?) from PO Box 24486, Nashville, TN 37202-4486): A free tabloid thing that's now combining some alternative scene coverage with the usual musical reviews and dates. #55, for example, has a tribute to Abbie Hoffman, a page on poster ordinances in New York and Nashville, and even a few zine recommendations. There's also local restaurants, a couple of fun columnists, film, video, and the Red Hot Chili Peppers. (T-24t)

* * * * *

METROSPECTIVE #1 ($1 from Don Orban, 7115 W. 89th Pl., Crown Point, IN 46307): A new zine mostly dedicated to music, although Don also invites a fashion page and prints an eldritch short story. There's more hope than content in the first issue, with the mainsprings being short interviews with Gear, Bluck, Deranged, and G.O.O.L. (S-30)

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MIM NOTES #37 ($1 *CASH* from PO Box 3576, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3576): "Official Newsletter of the Maoist Internationalist Movement", at least this one isn't as boring as most sectarian communist papers. That's because their editorial position mixes rage and scorn on most issues, making for some interesting invective at the very least, as when they review other periodicals. Tortuous political reasoning puts me to sleep though. (T-8t)

* * * * *

MIMOSA #6 ($2 from Dick & Nicki Lynch, PO Box 1270, Germantown, MD 20874-0998): One of the few very traditional sf zines I still get. It's especially good as a source of fan history, with Dave Kyle writing of the events surrounding the 1939 Worldcon in this issue. There's also amusing essays from Harry Warner and Sharon Farber, plus Bruno Ogorelec on Yugoslavian fandom. Printed on Twiltone and with art from Harvia, Rotsler, Erichsen and others, this is a classy act and enjoyable for any fan. (S-39)

* * * * *

MIND MATTERS REVIEW May/June-July/August 1989 ($1 from 2040 Polk St. #234, San Francisco, CA 94109): A somewhat philosophical political journal which attempts to "promote debate that will heal wounds of divisiveness rather than to burn ridges across the psychological chasms that divide people." Unfortunately, while editor Carrie Drake seems to have a conception of the big picture, I can't pick much meaning out of the tangled web of convoluted sentences here — a problem with many total systems. The July/August issue moves on to dangerous ground with a discussion of reverse discrimination by the gay community and "The Hidden Agenda in Anti-Gay Discrimination Law". (S-18)

* * * * *

MINI EXAMINER Vol. 11 #7 ($9/12 issues from Irene Hamlen Stephensen, PO Box 3893, Chatsworth, CA 91313: A newsletter of "biorhythm character and compatibility analysis". Irene examines the lives of celebrities as predicted and explained by their birthdates, and throws in her own commentary on issues like sexual harassment. Lots of biorhythm analysis services are also available for a price. (S-4)

* * * * *

MINISTRY OF COGNIZANCE #4 ($5/yr from Rodney Griffith, PO Box 523, Columbia Station, OH 44028-0523): A general-interest amateur press association which has had a stunning rise, breaking 100 pages after only four issues. Outlines of preferred topics are beginning to emerge, with music, popular culture, comics, and the small press being discussed by several contributors. #4 includes a franked zine and a pair of plastic executives. (S-107)

* * * * *

MINNESOTA SPECTATOR Vol. III #5 ($15/yr from PO Box 13651, Minneapolis, MN 55414): A conservative campus paper from the University of Minnesota. Perhaps because of the generally liberal climate of the Twin Cities, they seem to be a tad less feisty than others of the genre. Still, in this issue they dismiss the Greenhouse Effect as leftoid scaremongering, look into a case of reverse discrimination, and print a New Leftist's recanting of his old views. (S-24t)

★★★★★

THE MISSY HYATT FUN CLUB MAGAZINE #1 ($3 from Jeff Zinger, c/o Woodstock Records, 408 Dundas St., Woodstock, ONT, N4S 1B9, CANADA): I gather that this young lady has some connection with professional wrestling — apparently she manages some wrestlers or something. Anyhow, this is sort of a tongue-in-cheek tribute to here, filled with the sorts of things one finds in teen magazines. A fair number of photos, including one autographed to the readers, a list of faves, and a short interview make up most of the contents. (S-8t)

★★★★★

MMMWAHAHAHAHA! #3 ($2 (?) from 4410 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20016): A zine that's rooted in the punk music scene but really only glances at the music. Most of the coverage here is on various social and ecological matters, from the ozone hole to the necessity to pressure Congresscritters to be humane. A tool for informing people of the trouble the world is in. (S-16r)

★★★★★

MOBILITY LTD. Vol. 5 #3 ($1 (?) from 401 Linden Center Dr., Ft. Collins, CO 80524): You can get a free trial subscription to this "magazine for people with mobility impairments" if you're disabled or a caregiver; write them for details. It features ads for many products of interest to amputees, the wheelchair-bound, or other mobility-impaired people, as well as short feature articles — everything from reviews of rehab centers to advice on which sports are for who. (S-30t)

★★★★★

THE MONKEES CONNECTION Apr. 1989 ($5/yr from PO Box 6122, Terre Haute, IN 47802): No points for guessing that this is for fans of the fabled Monkees. Besides news on the music they feature a lot of gossip about what the original members and their cronies are up to now, as well as notes on Monkees publicity and simple fan stories. Lots of enthusiasm here. (S-41)

★★★★★

MONSTER #10-14 ($10/24 issues from Timothy Paxton, MPO Box 67, Oberlin, OH 44074-0067): A single sheeter about monster movies and nothing else. #11 considers monsters who try to get the girl, and what they can possibly do with her when they get her. #12 slams Hellraiser II at length. #14 includes the sheet music for a theme for the magazine — a curious idea. (S-2t)

★★★★★

THE MONTHLY INDEPENDENT TRIBUNE TIMES JOURNAL POST GAZETTE NEWS CHRONICLE BULLETIN #62 (50¢ from 2510 Bancroft Way #207, Berkeley, CA 94704): After a long vacation, this newsletter of humor and writing is back again, as funny and strange as ever. This issue excerpts some silly Christian correspondence, gives free rein to Blaster Al Ackerman's imagination, and features a couple of cartoons from Denver Tucson. (D-8r)

★★★★★

THE MONTHLY MEANDER May-June 1989 (Donation from Mike Gunderloy, 6 Arizona Ave., Rensselaer, NY 12144-4502): This "Newsletter of Evolutionary Anarchists" was founded by Ed Stamm, and now the task of putting it out has rotated to me for a year. We print most anything that comes in from laid-back anarchist types, and are eager to encourage more participation, within and without the newsletter. (S-4)

★★★★★

MOODY STREET IRREGULARS #18/19 ($5 from PO Box 157, Clarence Center, NY 14032): A combination of homage to and exploration of the life and works of Jack Kerouac. The writers here include those who knew him personally and those who only know his works, with many well-known names — at least well-known within this particular community. The magazine includes news bits and items for sale as well as criticism and new work in the tradition of what one piece calls "the gospel of Kerouac". Very well done. (S-46t)

★★★★★

MORAL EDGE #1 ($1 from 6004 Indian Trail, Sylvania, OH 43560): The co-editors of this zine all seem to be associated with the band Majority of One, which probably explains the interview and tour report in this issue. The general focus is on social activism as seen through the world of punk music. Non-smoking, thinking sensibly about drugs, and animal rights are a few of their concerns. (D-32t)

★★★★★

MOSHABLE #4 ($2 from Lars, Jernbanegade 16, 9800 Hjorring, DENMARK): Don't worry, this whole music zine is in English so it's worth packaging up a couple of dollar bills and sending them over. It's mainly interviews, including Instigators, Killdozer, Verbal Assault, Social Decay, and a batch of smaller bands., They also toss in a few pages of record reviews and some culture in the form of a Dennis Hopper article. (A4-24r)

★★★★★

MOVE OUT! #12 (50p. from 37, Harold Mount, Leeds., LS6 1PW, UK): Now obviously that won't include postage to the US so send along some IRCs. This is a postal game zine, including the standard Diplomacy as well as some odder items, like play-by-mail Dune and some new thing called "Enema". This issue includes a review of the Avalon Hill game Magic Realm as well as some thoughts on the Turkish position in Diplomacy. (A5-28r)

★★★★★

MSRRT NEWSLETTER Vol. 2 #4-5 (45¢ stamp from Chris Dodge, 4645 Columbus Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55407): The Minnesota Library Association's Social Responsibilities Round Table continues to spread much information on the progressive alternative press. They print news of various social justice groups and conferences, and review plenty of newsletters and zines. (S-16)

★★★★★

MUCK ZINE #1-2 ($1 (send stamps) from PO Box 557847, Miami, FL 33255): A zine of mostly local music, concentrating on new and young bands. This means you may not have heard of the folks they talk to yet: Methadone Actors, Quit and Question Reality in #1. But it also means there's a real friendly atmosphere to the zine, since it feels like they're helping build up the scene. #2 branches out to include a Dead Milkmen interview, record and show reviews, and a gruesome little short story, with less local focus. (S-24)

★★★★★

MURDER #2 (50¢ (?) from Average Day Comics, Carrie Jo, 65 Upland St., Worcester, MA 01607): A prime example of the reasons that fanzines should not be composed under the influence of drugs. While the random mishmash of song lyrics, paisley drawings, and senseless prose may have made sense to the writer, it doesn't amount to much more than a bore to others. Self-indulgent crud. (D-8)

★★★★★

MY HAMMER IS RED #1-2 (SASE from PO Box 993, St. Charles, IL 60174): An interim publication between issues of FNORD magazine. It contains about the same mix of wild, stream-of-cutup writing and zippy computer graphics as the parent publication. Something to beat your head against when you have a few moments free. (O-8t)

★★★★★

THE MYSTERY FANCIER Vol. 10 #4 ($7.50 from Guy M. Townsend, 311 E. Main St., Madison, IN 47250): A solidly built zine for the lover of mystery stories and novels. Much of this issue is taken up with an impressive index to volume 6, from a few years back. But there's also plenty of reviews of new and reprinted books, plus William Sarjeant's analysis of the Antony Maitland novels of Sara Woods. (D-104t)

★★★★★

MYTH INFORMATION #14 ($1.50 from MAFC, PO Box 95, Sutter, CA 95982-0095): A fan club magazine for those who enjoy Robert Asprin's fantasy series Myth Adventures. Besides various snippets of club news and notes on what's coming in the series, this issue includes an original Asprin story with illustrations by Mel. White, making it rather a collector's item. (D-23t)

★★★★★

NAAPM NEWSLETTER #33-36 ($15/yr from 2735 Bienvenue #3, Berkeley, CA 94705): One you know that this is from the National Association for the Advancement of Perry Mason, there isn't a lot else to say. They focus on the books as well as the TV series, with the main feature in #33 being an interview with Jackson Gillis, a story consultant for the series. In #35 they chat with Thomas Chastan, author of the new Perry Mason book. They also print schedules for showings on several TV stations and have a swap and pen pal column. (D-16r)

★★★★★

THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE Vol. 10 #22 ($15/50 issues from 500 Greenwich St. #201, New York, NY 10013): Some of you may remember the National Alliance Party — their Presidential candidate, Dr. Lenora Fulani, was on the ballot in all fifty states. This is the party newspaper, with strong appeals to blacks and gays to take to this fourth-largest party in the country as their source of strength. Political analyses, music reviews, and notes on miscarriages of justice are all here, along with a full-page McDonalds ad. (T-8t)

★★★★★

NATIONAL COALITION NEWS Vol. 13 #40 ($20/yr from NCACS c/o Mary Ellen Bowen, 58 Schoolhouse Rd., Summertown, TN 38483): The newsletter of the National Coalition of Alternative Community Schools, an organization which has been beset by internal problems lately but has apparently overcome most of them. They report on doings at dozens of schools, provide ideas on home schooling and innovative education, and otherwise support non-state schools. Their classified ads are something of an employment exchange for people in this area as well. (S-20t)

★★★★★

NATIONAL HOMESCHOOL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER Apr. 1988 ($5/yr from PO Box 167, Rodeo, NM 88056): A relatively new entry in the field of support services for homeschoolers — those who choose to teach their children at home. The bottom line philosophy here is "Parents have the right to educate their children", and they don't put political limits on this right. Lots of networking and big plans for the future here. (S-8t)

★★★★★

THE NEW ABOLITIONIST Vol. VII #2 ($15/yr from NFA, 325 E. 25th St., Baltimore, MD 21218): The tabloid of Nuclear Free America, a group coordinating the efforts to get nuclear-free zones enacted all over the place. They also try to put economic pressure on nuke contractors: this issue announces the end of the boycott of Morton Salt, which has spun off its nuke work to a separate company under the Thiokol name. (T-12t)

★★★★★

THE NEW CRUCIBLE May-June 1989 ($1 from PO Box 7252, Spencer, IA 51301): A collection of articles, reprinted and new, reflecting on Garry De

Young's many and varied concerns. Though centered on environmentalism, it ranges fairly far afield. For example, the June issue includes pieces on the firebombing of Dresden and the distribution of titanium, as well as the Exxon spill and the Iowa drought. (S-68t)

★★★★★

NEW ENVIRONMENT BULLETIN #162-163 ($6.50/yr from Bill Case, 120 Academy St., Manlius, NY 13104): The newsletter of a long-running group looking at better ways to proceed into a saner future. They're quite interested in such things as alternative land ownership, environmental problems, and appropriate technologies. Each issue contains summaries of their recent meetings and a few longer articles. (S-6t)

★★★★★

NEW HOPE INTERNATIONAL REVIEW SUPPLEMENT Vol. 13 #2 ($3 from 20 Werneth Avenue, Gee Cross, Hyde, Cheshire, SK14 5NL, UK): A review of small periodicals, somewhat similar in spirit to FACTSHEET FIVE although smaller and skewed towards the literary world. Nevertheless they are open to seeing experimental work (though not often fond of it) and the variety of reviewers means that even the same magazine is likely to have different aspects highlighted in succeeding issues. Covers primarily work from the UK and the USA. (A5-32r)

★★★★★

NEW INDICATOR Vol. 14 #8-10 ($8/yr from Student Organizations, UCSD B-023, La Jolla, CA 92093): A progressive student paper from the University of California at San Diego. Much of their reporting is currently directed to an administration plan to wipe out the on-campus co-ops, but they range from Central America to harassment of petty bureaucrats. (T-8t)

★★★★★

A NEW IRON COLUMN #XI ($1.50 from PO Box 3266, El Segundo, CA 90245-8366): An angry anarchist zine featuring both history and fresh rabble-rousing. They print lots of posters critical of police, racist bands, and other thugs. This issue also features a longish article on Durriti, as well as some stuff purporting to link AIDS to the Pentagon. (D-28r)

★★★★★

NEW OPTIONS #57-59 ($2 from PO Box 19324, Washington, DC 20036): A journal of independent policy ideas. Editor Mark Satin is searching for new visions that are both alternative and plausible or possible. In #58, for example, he introduces a couple of authors with a plan for a "shire" government in Vermont, as a way to revitalize the democratic process. #59 is a bit disappointing, with a section on education that assumes the system just needs to be reformed, and a few pages of new "values" paradigms — a word so fuzzy as to be nearly useless. But even clunker issues of this one provoke me to thought. (S-8t)

★★★★★

NEW PLAYS & PLAYWRIGHTS Vol. III #2 ($1 (?) from PO Box 14524, Chicago, IL 60614): Information for those involved with the theater, mostly in the Chicago area and Midwest. Their contents run to in-depth interviews with people in the field, notes on fellowship sources, and essays on how to do it right. Why don't I see things like this from other cities? (S-32t)

★★★★★

NEW PLAYS & PLAYWRIGHTS NEWSLETTER Vol. 1 #2 ($1 (?) from PO Box 14524, Chicago, IL 60614): A more frequent counterpart of the above, with news from the Chicago area theater world. This issue leads off with an article about various funding possibilities for playwrights in the area. It then moves on to interview one particular theatrical director and poke gentle fun at some institutions of the dramatic world. (S-16t)

★★★★★

NEW RISING SUN Winter/Spring 1989 (50¢ from SHAD, PO Box 379, New York, NY 10028): The newsletter of an uncompromising anti-nuclear group in the New York City area. Much of this is news of actions (legislative and otherwise) that affect various reactors around the Northeast, but they also find time for some feature articles. This issue examines the links between spirituality and activism, with a Starhawk interview from a few years back. (S-12)

★★★★★

NEW ROUTE #5 ($5/4 issues from 114 E. 28th St. #400, New York, NY 10016): A slick little music zine with articles from all sorts of college music types (it also goes out to clubs and new music stores) about their favorite bands. Busker Roger Manning makes the cover of #5, while inside are such folks as Skinny Puppy, the Replacements, Ultra Vivid Scene, Tiny Lights, and more. It's a bit jarring to have Billy Bragg coming down hard on capitalism a few pages before the Army National Guard ad. (D-22t)

★★★★★

NEWS & LETTERS Vol. 34 #4-6 (25¢ from 59 E. Van Buren, Chicago, IL 60605): The tabloid paper of a group of Marxist Humanists who seem to be rather buried in their own rhetoric.They apparently see themselves as some sort of intellectual heirs to Hegel when they're not busy reporting worldwide labor news or things which seem like the first glints of revolution — the Chinese student protests, for example. (T-12t)

★★★★★

NEWS & NOTES FROM ALL OVER Summer 1989 ($5/10 issues from Society for the Eradication of Television, PO Box 10491, Oakland, CA 94610): More commentary and reprints from the people who think television is an insidious force that ought to be stopped. I at least half sympathize with them, though I prefer to just ignore the tube. Anyhow, they do radio and newspaper publicity for their cause, and track the latest research on the bad effects of TV on society. (L-6)

★★★★★

THE NEW SETTLER INTERVIEW #40-42 ($2 from PO Box 730, Willits, CA 95490): Plain talk with folks from the Pacific Northwest. Editor Beth Bosk and her writers do extended interviews with folks like (in #40) Pamela Elizondo (recently busted for cultivation) or Bill Mannix and John Lewallen, who are trying to get some forests protected. In #42 there's a chat with Lasara Scott, a strong young veteran of the Great Peace March. Fresh voices and inspiring thoughts. (S-48t)

★★★★★

THE NEWSLETTER OF TEMPORARY CULTURE Temporary Systems Issue ($3 from H. Wessels 4, PO Box 8180, New York, NY 10116): A peculiar literary journal, rife with experimental writing. The most fascinating piece in this issue is an unfinished outline for a post-Apocalypse story centered on a skateboarding culture at Wave Rock in Australia. There's also everything from plantation accounts to cannabis dreams. Looking for contributions. (HS-18t)

★★★★★

NEWSLETTER WITH NO NAME Vol. 2 #1 ($6/yr from Rosemary K. West, PO Box 8059, Mission Hills, CA 91346): This one has some MENSA flavor, though that comes from the writers and not from any official connection. Contents include thoughtful essays and letters of comment on the previous issue, with a sprinkling of humor and leads to other groups. #1 ranges from the worth of philosophy to the wreck of the Exxon Valdez. (S-15)

★★★★★

NEW UNIONIST #142-144 ($3/10 issues from 621 W. lake St. #210, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A journal of radical labor reform, based on hte "one big union" idea. #142 attempts to distinguish their program from anarchism — which, however, they seem to have some misconceptions about. #143 gives a syndicalist view of the current uproar in China. (T-4t)

★★★★★

A NEW WORLD RISING #10 (Donation from Box 33, 77 Ives St., Providence, RI 02906): A hippie-looking tabloid dedicated to networking together young people to save the earth. Through 400 distributors and Grateful Dead shows they send out 50,000 copies of each issue now, with messages of hope for humanity juxtaposed to further evidence that the present system simply isn't working. An immense amount of energy is being generated by this project, though what will come of it remains to be seen. (T-8r)

★★★★★

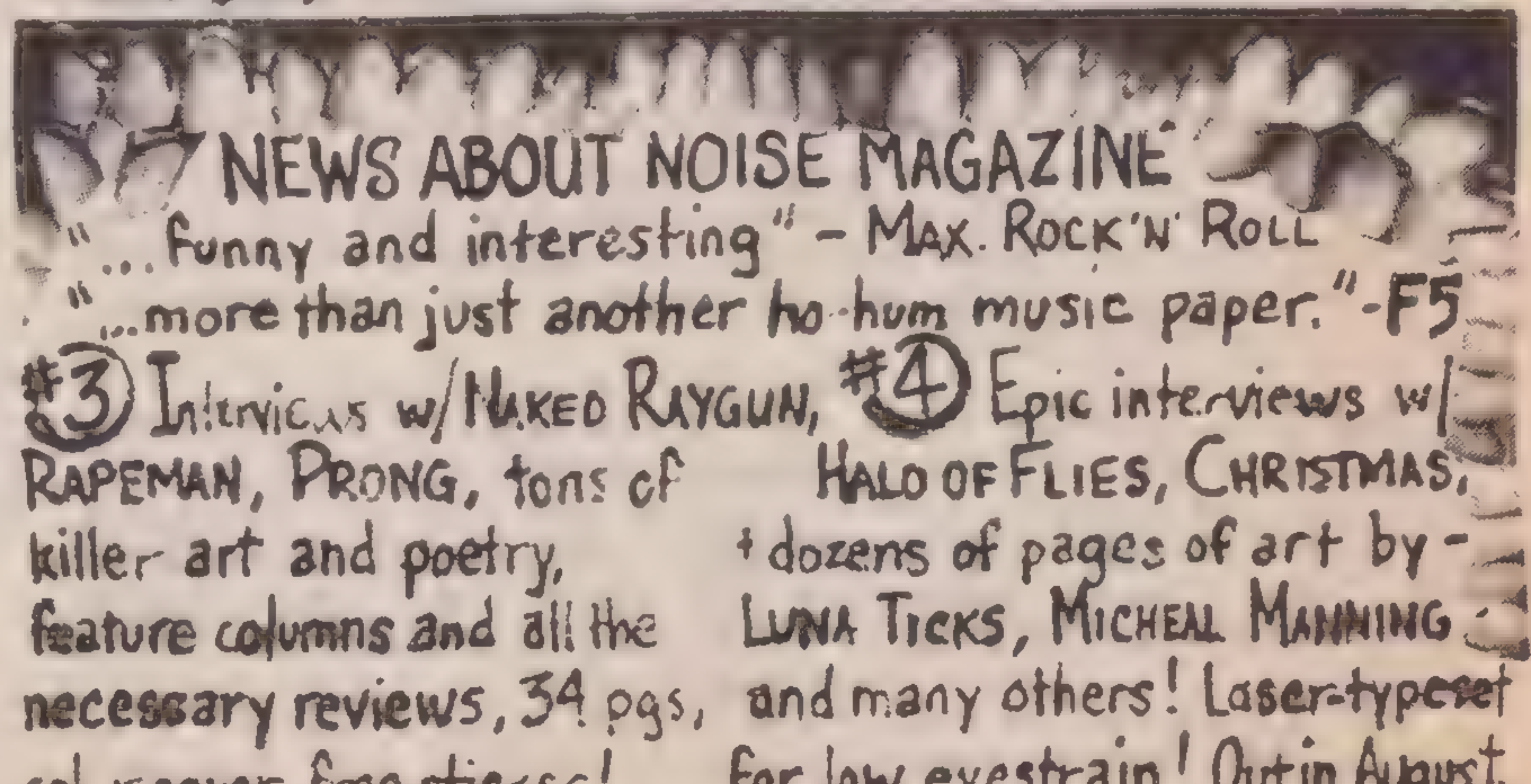
NEW YORK FORTEAN SOCIETY NEWSLETTER #9 ($6/yr from PO Box 20024, New York, NY 10025-1510): A rather skimpy Fortean effort, with stories mainly from the New York City area. #9 has a profile of writer Patrick Huyghe, a story of psychic lottery winning, and ghosts at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. (S-4t)

★★★★★

NEXUS Vol. 24 #3 ($3 from 006 University Center, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435): A campus literary magazine that's breaking out of the mold in all directions. On the one front, they have reviews of the sort of literature that I cover; on the other, they have avant-garde photography from Japan. Bob Black and other marginals rub up against poets both traditional and experimental. I wonder if their faculty knows what they've been sneaking into the dorms? (S-80t)

★★★★★

NIEKAS #39 ($15/4 issues from RFD 2, Box 63, Center Harbor, NH 03326-9729): A high-quality zine that's serious about examining "Science Fiction and Fantasy". This includes an article on the military structure in LORD OF THE RINGS; four more articles on the Arthurian legend (leftover from the previous issue), a look at the folklore of Europe's woods, and lots more. There's also a lettercolumn filled with serious debate on previous issues. (S-56t)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more. There's also a lettercolumn filled with serious debate on previous issues. (S-56t)

★★★★★

NIGHTWATCH Vol. 4 #3 (Donation from 2800 Shirlington Rd. #405, Arlington, VA 22206): #3 is a good introduction to this hard-line publication for cold warriors. It consists of a single essay by Joseph D. Douglass, Jr., titled simply "Soviet Strategic Deception", arguing that all the nice things you know about change in the Soviet Union are wrong. (S-10t)

★★★★★

NINE INNINGS #6 ($1 or The Usual from Andrew Hooper, 315 N. Ingersoll St., Madison, WI 53703): This is a science fiction fanzine with very little to say about sf, being devoted instead mainly to the game of baseball. More precisely, Andrew uses a particular game of baseball as a narrative frame to hang a number of observations on, before moving into letters from other people who love or hate baseball. A nice idea, though not one that especially appeals to me. (S-18)

★★★★★

NOBOBODY (75¢ stamps from Wayne Branch, 11842 N. 30th Pl., Phoenix, AZ 85028): A collection of Wayne's block prints plus a bit of art scammed from elsewhere. There's also a disjointed rambling essay about how to draw, that at least has the good sense to avoid art theory jargon, even while it does sound halting and unsure. (D-12)

★★★★★

NO COVER #11 ($2 (?) from Java Productions, PO Box 2075, Station A, Champaign, IL 61820): Mostly music reviews in a mostly attractive desktop format. The lead interview with Sonic Youth looks good and reads good, as does the Laibach chat a bit further on. Short reviews are peppered all through, everything from the big indie faves to biker music to hardcore. A striking zine. (S-24t)

★★★★★

THE NOCTURNAL LYRIC #9-10 ($1.25 from PO Box 2602, Pasadena, CA 91102-2602): An outlet for general creativity, mostly in the form of short stories, verse, and artworks. Michael Brownstein contributes a cute little horror story to #9, and Lee Ann Nikki's drawings dress up the margins as always. Paul Weinman poetry and a Marjorie Dorfman story also make nice reading. (D-24r)

★★★★★

NO GOVERNOR July 1988 ($2 from Robert Shea, 284 Greenwood Ave., Glencoe, IL 60022): This one was delayed in getting to me, and indeed is published very infrequently; you may not see copies often even if you subscribe. Then again, I think it's worth waiting to read Bob's anarchist zine, which has been coming out for years, albeit slowly. In this issue many letter-writers discuss the practical possibilities of anarchy (and whether it conflicts with human nature) and Bob drops in tidbits of his recent reading & reasoning. (S-22t)

★★★★★

THE NOISE #83-85 ($10/12 issues from Timothy Maxwell, 74 Jamaica St., JP, Boston, MA 02130): Steady and reliable music coverage from the Boston area. #83 has interviews with the Zulus and Meltdown to brag about. The Cavedogs make the cover of #84, and WFNX DJ Angela gets profiled inside. #85 has Slapshot and a centerfold of tattooed musicians. And of course there's always plenty of gossip from Rita & Lolita. (S-24)

★★★★★

NO KKK — NO FASCIST USA! Spring/Summer 1989 ($1 from 220 9th St. #443, San Francisco, CA 94103): The newspaper of the John Brown Anti-Klan Committee, a coalition of groups dedicated to wiping out hatemongers like the KKK and the Nazis in this country. Their main thrust is action against Nazi skinheads, and they supply all sorts of resources and information to help in this fight. Their own political program of socialism and revolution is downplayed in these pages. (T-20t)

★★★★★

NOLO NEWS Vol. 9 #2 ($9/yr from Nolo Press, 950 Parker St., Berkeley, CA 94710): Nolo Press publishes self-help law manuals, and this is their update & sales pitch. It actually has a good many more article than catalog pages, some of them quite useful. They're into things like disciplining lousy attorneys or helping form your own corporation on the cheap. #2 has a special insert of lawyer humor that most lawyers won't appreciate. (T-20t)

★★★★★

NO LONGER SILENT! #1 ($1.25 from Wendy, Black Web Productions, PO Box 3582, Tucson, AZ 85722): A small collection of revolutionary ideas and anarchist philosophy. Wendy reprints a piece on the worthlessness of drug laws as well as a lot of stuff on how society is running downhill fast. "Freed from the constraints of government-imposed laws and regulations, each and every individual would be able to live as they *truly* wished." (D-20r)

★★★★★

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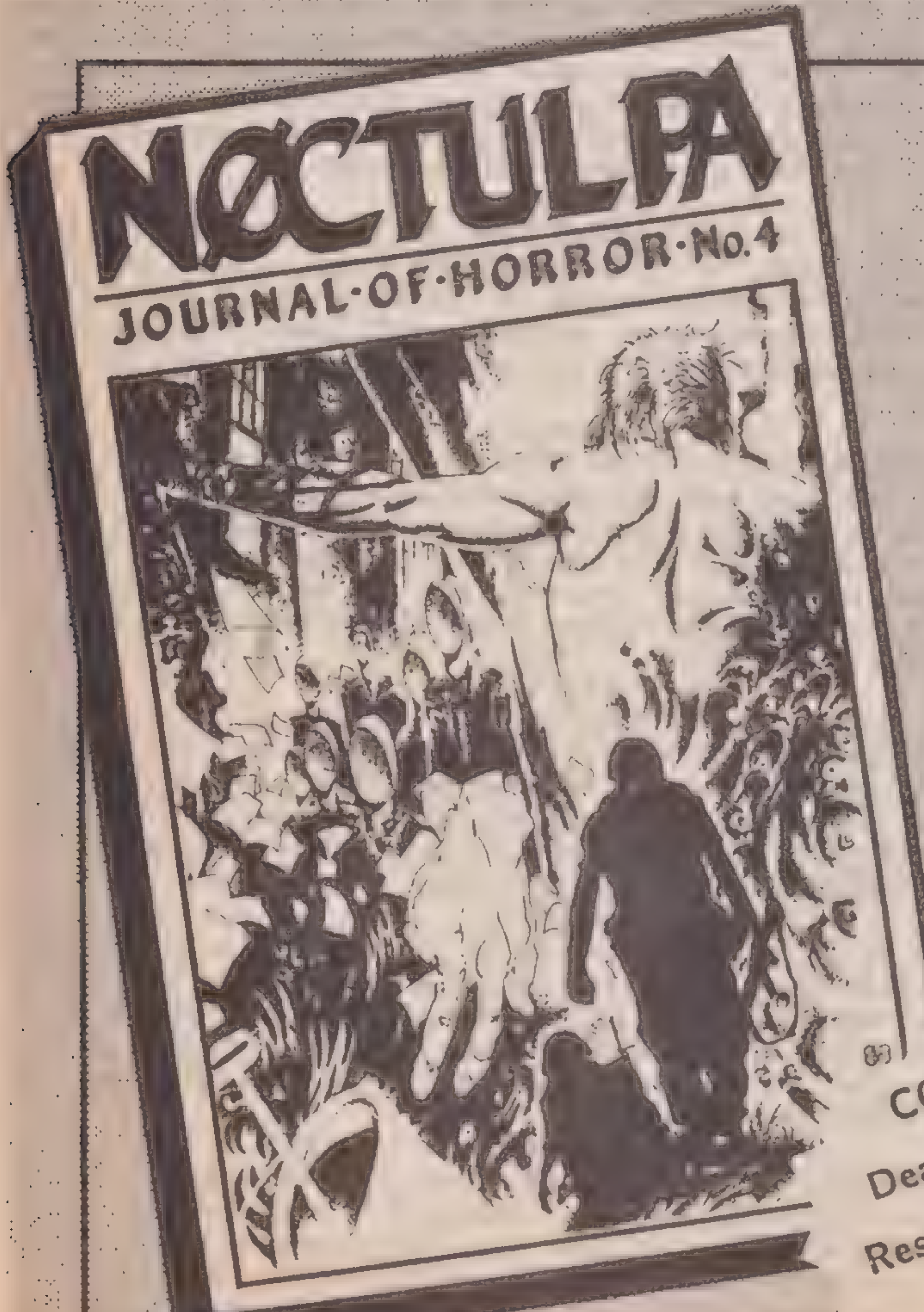


NOOK NEWS Vol. 5 #1 ($2 from The Writer's Nook Press, 10957 Chardon Rd., Chardon, OH 44024): A marketing and encouragement newsletter for writers that is still adding features. They even have a separate 12-page market listing available now. Other bits range from contest listings to notes on tax law to thoughts on rewriting. (S-12t)

★★★★★

NOOK NEWS CONFERENCES & KLATCHES BULLETIN Vol. 2 #2 ($3/4 issues from The Writer's Nook Press, 10957 Chardon Rd., Chardon, OH 44024-9752): As far as I know this is the only newsletter around specifically tracking events for writers. They list all manner of workshops, seminars and lectures on the craft of writing, along with contact information and prices. Listings are organized by state and date. (D-12)

★★★★★

THE NOOK NEWS MARKET BULLETIN Vol. 1 #2 ($3/4 issues from The Writer's Nook Press, 10957 Chardon Rd., Chardon, OH 44024-9752): Compiled by Linda Hutton, this is a selection of dozens of places actively buying new fiction and non-fiction — mainly for at least some money, though a few pay in copies. Aimed at writers of all skill levels. (D-12t)

★★★★★

NORTHERN SUN NEWS Vol. 12 #4-5 ($10/yr from 1519 E. Franklin Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55404): This anti-nuclear paper has been going through a period of searching for a new definition and new enthusiasm recently. Meanwhile they're still a decent source for socially conscious information. #4 ranges from the bias of the local public radio station to the costs of decommissioning reactors. Lots of Central America and Native American stuff in #5, reflecting their focus on alternative politics as well as alternative energy. (T-12t)

★★★★★

THE NOTE Vol. 3 #9-12 ($1 (?) from 735 1/2 New Hampshire, Lawrence, KS 66044): Music coverage that's gradually grown from just a few local bands to include most of the scenes in Kansas as well as feature articles. #10, for example, looks at corporate rock sponsorship, along with bands from The Replacements to Swamp Zombies. (T-27t)

★★★★★

NOTEBOOK: A LITTLE MAGAZINE Vol. 5 #1 ($6 from PO Box 170, Barstow, CA 92312-0170): A literary magazine which generally seems to concentrate on pictures of life in the mainstream of somewhat-oppressed society, with a steady leavening of Chicano writers. Love and family — connections — seems to be a constant theme of the writers and poets here. (D-90)

★★★★★

NOTE FOR NOTE #5 1/2 ($6/yr from 2646 1/2 Griffith Park Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90039): A magazine of music reviews which inclines towards mainline rock. Editor Steve Roeser ranges pretty widely, but his reviews of folks like Willie Dixon and Papa John Creach show a sensitivity for rock history. Moving forward, we get a Casey Kasem video collection and a spotlight on the Ramones. But it doesn't stop there, since new indie acts like Boston's Curtis Gone Bad are also featured. (S-16)

★★★★★

NOTES FROM OBLIVION #22 ($2 (?) from Jay Harber, 626 Paddock Ln., Libertyville, IL 60048-3733): This one is somewhere between sad and scary. It's a history with current updates of Jay's somewhat unusual medical problems: eye pain, headaches, and reactions to all sorts of fumes and substances in the environment. It sounds like his life has gotten to be purely torture over the last several years, and he needs help to end this. (S-16)

★★★★★

NOTES FROM THE DUMP #51 ($24/yr from Terry Ward, PO Box 39, Acworth, NH 03601): Yeah, Terry really does work at the Dump (more formally, the Acworth-Langdon Transfer Station), and in his off moments he ruminates. That's about the best way I can find to describe this personal zine, a collection of homey wisdom, past cud-chewing, and ads for local folks. Charming in a curious way. (S-6)

★★★★★

NOTES FROM UNDER THE FLOORBOARDS Vol. 3 #3 (Available by trade from Lance Swanson, PO Box 1949, Warren, OH 44482-1949): A publication excerpted from the gay amateur press association APA-LAMBDA. Lance writes of small press he has seen, erotic stories he is trying to sell, and the latest in harassment of sexual minorities. (S-14)

★★★★★

NOTHING #2 (One stamp from 3000 Bill McDonald Pkwy. #6, Bellingham, WA 98225): Part self-promotion for the band Dust Blair, and part local garage music, with one or two big names thrown in (Cowboy Junkies get interviewed in this issue). The handwriting and poor copying make it a bit of a chore to read, and things are very unfocused at the moment. More exuberance than skill. (D-32r)

★★★★★

NOT UP TO MODERN GRAPHIC STANDARDS #18-19 ($7.50/10 issues from Michael Hopcroft, 3936 N. Albina Ave., Portland, OR 97227-1208): Another Diplomacy zine has landed in my mailbox, and this is it. Actually, Michael branches out beyond just reporting on games he is running (though those are here too), mostly into reviews of other wargames and the like. There's also a serialized story and a bit on the NBA playoffs in #18 — as well as the primitive look the title leads one to expect. (D-16r)

★★★★★

NOVA EXPRESS Vol. 2 #3 ($3 from 1115 Drava Ln., Houston, TX 77090): A nice-looking SF zine with some heavy-duty features. The big news this time is the interview with and bibliography of Kim Stanley Robinson. There's also a Hunter Thompson-pastiche report on the Worldcon, which is only marginally successful, as well as short fiction and a handful of book reviews. (S-25t)

★★★★★

NOZINE #1 ($1 from L.J. McAdams, PO Box 4352, Seattle, WA 98104): This one is somewhere on the borderline between art, anarchy, and poetry. The basic layout is collages with poems or prose, many with overtly spiritual overtones. The art also includes strangely surreal sketchbook work, especially from Matthew Skenandore. Ricardo Wang contributes a handwritten poem, signed and numbered, tucked in a marbled card attached to the endpaper. Lots of TLC in this item. (S-14)

★★★★★

THE ODINIST #120 ($1 from PO Box 1647, Crystal River, FL 32629): A journal for those holding to some sort of primal Aryan ideas. In this issue they finish printing the series about the Libyan "Third Universal City" and continue their series on western history. They also complain about unfair treatment of white people. (S-8)

★★★★★

OFFBEAT Vol. 2 #6 ($3 from PO Box 56146, New Orleans, LA 70156-6156): A guide to live music and arts in the New Orleans area. Most of this particular issue is devoted to coverage of the 20th New Orleans Jazz Fest, with schedules and advice on what to see and how to get there. The Nevilles and Tipitinas also get profiled, and Cajun Dance is looked into briefly. Lots of club and gallery listings. (S-42t)

★★★★★

OFFBEAT #9 (£35/12 issues from Suite Six, Ground Floor, Eastern Block, Panther House, 38 Mount Pleasant, London WC1X 0AP, ENGLAND): An almost painfully hip and arty music magazine with bucks behind it — there's a 3"CD included with 20+ minutes of free music (best bet: the extended mix of Marc Almond's "Tears Run Rings"). They tend towards pop and light rock, with features on A Guy Called Gerald, Kirsty MacColl, and others who are not exactly household words here. Lots of record reviews and gossip as well, so you can keep up with the trends. (A4-82t)

★★★★★

OFFICE NUMBER ONE Vol. 342,800 #742 ($5.43/4 issues from 1709 San Antonio St., Austin, TX 78701): A journal of parallel worlds and humor. They report news from thousands of universes, print horoscopes, discuss the color vision of dogs, and generally put out a pretty strange magazine. Apparently this has some association with a toy store in town, which must be an odd place indeed. (HL-12r)

★★★★★

OFF THE DEEP END #6/76 ($3 from Tim Cridland, PO Box 85874, Seattle, WA 98145): A collection of conspiracies and weirdness. Tim collects information on the flat earth, the hollow earth, UFO bases, wild science, surveillance technology, and more, and reprints it for your enjoyment and confusion. This double issue includes an interview with Antero Alli and what may be a letter from the Green River Killer. (S-32t)

★★★★★

OIKOS Vol. 2 #4-5 (R8/6 issues from Ecoguild, 7 Melbourne Rd., Woodstock, Cape Town 7925, SOUTH AFRICA): This is a small ecological publication put out in a mix of English and Afrikaans. #4 is a special issue devoted to the Green movement worldwide, with basic explanations of Green ideas and some suggestions for implementing them. Very friendly feeling. (D-24)

★★★★★

ON GOGOL BOULEVARD Vol. 2 #3/4 ($1 from Aspect Foundation, c/o 151 First Ave. #62, New York, NY 10003): An exciting report from the folks who are trying to unite the grassroots resistance movements both east and west of the iron curtain. Much of this issue is a report on Bob McGlynn's visit to Poland and elsewhere, where he met lots of cool underground types. There's also worldwide contacts, Polish anarchist history, and other cool stuff. (T-8t)

★★★★★

ON ME 'EAD SON #17 (40p. from Nick Taylor, 20, Quail Green, Wightwick, Wolverhampton, W. Midlands, WV6 8DF, UK): A gaming zine with some rather different action. The majority of the games reported on here are some sort of postal (or in-person?) football (i.e. soccer). They also run some starfighter & wild west games for those who demand a bit of a difference. Definitely different from anything else I've seen. (A5-23r)

★★★★★

ON SITE #7 ($1 from Bob Bannister, 230 W. 105th St. #5C, New York, NY 10025): Music coverage that tries to explain what's going on with a record rather than spout the usual critical buzzwords (a sin that I have certainly been guilty of). This issue also has a letter from Gerard Cosloy rebutting some of Live Skull's charges from the previous issue and an interview with Band of Susans. (D-28r)

★★★★★

ON THE ISSUES Vol. IX ($9.50/4 issues from 97-77 Queens Blvd., Forest Hills, NY 11374): "The Journal of Substance for Progressive Women", this one is both feminist and humanist. They delve into quite a few corners of society, from a group of Jewish feminists challenging the patriarchal tradition of that religion to the experiences of women being bombed in Morocco (with US aid, incidentally, to the military) to Holly Near in El

Salvador to Marjorie Swann's autobiographical reflections on pacifism and witness. A voice for the traditionally powerless who won't take it any more. (S-37t)

★★★★★

OPTION #26-27 ($15/6 issues from Sonic Options Network, 2345 Westwood Blvd. #2, Los Angeles, CA 90064): Still an important link in the independent music network, though still slammed for not paying enough attention to the little guy, a charge with some truth to it. I read this one rather carefully, not so much for the reviews or the articles on Nick Cave, Lydia Lunch, Peter Stampfel, or Nurse With Wound. No, it's the coverage of indie distribution hassles, home studio setup and the ethics of sampling that I don't see elsewhere. Slick but worthwhile. (S-132t)

★★★★★

THE ORIGINAL DONNA KOSSY'S KOOKS MAGAZINE #3 ($4 from Donna Kossy, PO Box 953, Allston, MA 02134): Donna is rapidly becoming the authority on kooks of all types, and this magazine features analyses of their works as well as excerpts from kookiness. In #3 Donna explains the difference between kooks and cranks and talks to the folks at MIT's Archive of Useless Research. Ahmed Fishmonger attempts a slightly different taxonomy, while Christoper Magson and John Eberly present the works of two classic kooks. Fascinating. (S-24t)

★★★★★

OtherRealms #24 ($2.85 from Chuq von Rospach, 35111-F Newark Blvd. #255, Newark, CA 94560): A magazine of reviews of science fiction, fantasy, and related books. There are a few other things tucked in as well (like Bruce Bethke's "The Contrapunk Manifesto" in this issue), but the reviews are the heart of it — well-written and informative, and worth reading to keep up with the field. In an interesting aside, most of the readers apparently see this one over various electronic networks, making the print version the appendage. (S-28t)

★★★★★

OUTER SHELL #44-45 (SASE from PO Box 7053, St. Petersburg, FL 33734): A single sheet of music, oysters, and silliness. #44 iincludes happy face updates for the 80s and a letter from Psychodrama's Brett Kirby. #45 is a Jimi Hendrix issue, reporting on his continued popularity and new projects, even this long after his death. (S-2r)

★★★★★

OUTLET #38 ($5 from Trev Faull, 33 Aintree Cres., Barkingside, Ilford, Essex, IG6 2Hd, ENGLAND): Truly amazing music coverage from someone who can keep both the latest tape releases and the earliest rock in perspective. There are things crammed into every nook and cranny, including a Dave Clark 5 discography & run-down, Trev's '88 top ten with reviews, Karen Finley, the See For Miles record label, and much more. Incredible depth of knowledge and rock eclecticism here. (A4-38r)

★★★★★

OUT OF ORDER #1-2 ($1 from Packrat Press, PO Box 5498, Atlanta, GA 30307): Well, believe it or not, the original Omar Khayyam Ravenhurst is back with more news of Discordia — which, in case you missed it, is either a religion disguised as a complex joke or vice versa. #1 features some basic tenets of the faith,, a page on "The Nine Inscrutable Oriental Secrets of Discordian Meditation", and notes on the Doodooist heresy. #2 has some Discordian scripture and a new address for Malaclypse the Younger. (S-4)

★★★★★

OUTRAGE #17-19 (45¢ from 108 Schuyler Pl., Ithaca, NY 14850): A young and feisty anarchist zine from the Cornell community. They argue against things like limiting abortion rights and apartheid at Cornell with a combination of analysis, humor, and direct action, which seems at times to close on a new synthesis. Good to see some energy on a college campus. (HL-12)

★★★★★

OUT WEST #7 ($2.50 from PO Box 19894, Sacramento, CA 95819): Chuck Woodbury has created a niche for himself: roaming the American West and writing about it. It's sort of like an endless BLUE HIGHWAYS transplanted west of the Rockies. He's a delightfully funny guy, and always manages to find jackalopes, John Wayne's boots, strange road signs, neat general stores, and other reminders that not every place is Manhattan. Plus you can get a free copy if you live in a town with 12 letters in its name. (T-40t)

★★★★★

THE OZARKS MOUNTAINEER Vol. 37 #4/5 ($8.50/6 issues from HCR 3 Box 868, Branson, MO 65616): A fat collection of history, folklore, naturalism, crafts and just plain life from the Ozarks Mountain region. They cover some things of interest to tourists, but much of the content is simply an appreciation of a way of life, simpler and slower, that still exists there. Plenty of local history is preserved as well, especially fascinating to we historians. (S-70t)

★★★★★

PACIFIC CRYSTAL GUILD NEWSLETTER Vol. III #1 ($1.50/3 issues from Jerry Tomlinson, PO Box 1371, Sausalito, CA 94966-1371): A trade journal for those interested in crystals — from the New Age point of view, not necessarily the mineralogical one. Jerry lists shops and mail order houses that deal in crystal, and also publicizes major crystal fairs. The newsletter closes with the crystal merchants' Code of Ethics. (S-6)

★★★★★

PAGANS AND FELLOW TRAVELLERS

I'm casting a somewhat wide net here, intending to get together most of the folks involved in both alternate religions and ceremonial magick. This is a juxtaposition that will no doubt be repugnant to some listed, but as others cross the borders of these and stranger fields, it's a necessary one.

•**ABRASAX** #4 ($4 from James M. Martin, PO Box 1219, Corpus Christi, TX 78403-1219): This one is more magickal than pagan — in fact "pagans" come in for a bit of sneering. This issue is devoted to Satanism, Luciferianism, Setism and related topics, starting with an examination of the various faiths which the media ignorantly labels as simply "satanist". Occult history, Discordian cut-ups, and stories of lives transformed by ritual all appear. (S-52)

•**THE AMALTHEAN HORN** Vol. 3 #7-9 ($15/12 issues from PO Box 5511, Pasadena, CA 91107): A networking pagan newsletter primarily serving the Southern California area, though with more feature articles to go with their new desktop format they're getting more useful for outsiders. Every issue has a calendar and address section; #7 has fiction and a circuit diagram for an electronic meditation device as well. #9 features a page of Discordianism from Ol' Sam. (S-14t)

•**ANTHONY M EGAN NEWSLETTER** #14 (Contribution from Anthony M. Egan, 612 E. 14th St. #17F, New York, NY 10009): Mostly a romp through Anthony's mail, which tends to be heavily pagan in nature. He also reprints bits of mainstream news coverage on witches, voodoo, the Exorcist movies, and so on. (S-8)

•**AQUARIAN ARROW** #26-28 ($3 *CASH* from The Neopantheist Society, 17 Wolseley Road, London N8 8RR, ENGLAND): This one represents itself as "the radical left wing of the modern Western Mystery tradition." The closest point of reference is perhaps the occult/magickal community, but their provocativeness and sense of humor sets them apart. Choice tidbits include editor Zachary Cox's reinterpreted myth "Oedipus Schmux" in #26, "The Declaration of Individual Autonomy" in #27, and the continuing, perhaps satirical, "Satanist's Diary". A jumping letters column and extensive review section add to every issue. (S-36t)

•**BAHLISTI PAPERS** Vol. III #x-xd ($2 from Kali Lodge [checks to CASH], PO Box 15038, New Orleans, LA 70115): The newsletter of a lodge of the Ordo Templi Orientis, a magickal group tracing its lineage back to Crowley or so. There's a lot of mysticism here, some gratuitous sexual fantasy, announcements of lodge events, and so on. Very clever gematria that almost looks like it means something too. Looks sort of tongue-in-cheek but I expect that it isn't. (S-12t)

•**THE BLACK FLAME** Vol. 1 #1 ($3.25 from PO Box 499, Radio City Station, New York, NY 10101): A new "Quarterly Forum for Satanic Thought". This is not the baby-slaughtering bunch you may assume, but a rather thoughtful group of magical egotists following in the footsteps of Anton Szandor LaVey. They have an authentically elitist attitude and the intro issue gives cautions on dealing with both the public and phony Satanists, as well as rituals and invocations. (S-12t)

•**BRIMSTONE** Vol. 1 #2 ($18/4 issues from 231 Kennedy Dr. Box 130, Malden, MA 02148): These Satanists aren't baby-slaughterers, but they don't seem all that level-headed either. This issue rages about the major media slamming their religion, prints letters with accompanying psychoanalysis, and gives a ritual to transform yourself into a "vampyre". These folks seem to be more evil groupies than serious seekers. (S-21)

•**CALENDAR OF EVENTS** 5/10/89 ($4/yr from Larry Cornett, 9527 Blake Ln. #102, Fairfax, VA 22031): An extensive listing of events of interest to pagans, including workshops, gatherings, protests, festivals, and other odds and ends. Brief descriptions, contacts, prices and of course dates are given for each one. (S-4r)

•**COMPOST NEWSLETTER** Beltane-Litha 1989 ($2 from Valerie Walker [no cash; note "for CNL" on check], 729 5th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94118): A strange mix of serious paganism and images snatched from the major media; they have a lot of fun while on your path. Along with various swimsuits and the Goddess of Obesity, the Beltane issue has willow as a useful plant and notes on personal vibrations. Litha has a "nerds from space" theme to the illustrations, confirming once again that this is one of the more laid-back pagan zines. (S-20t)

•**CONVERGING PATHS** Vol. 3 #4 ($4 from PO Box 63, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572): There's a lot to choose from here, and a thoughtful flavor that comes through more clearly than in some other pagan periodicals. Topics in #4 include the reasons for raising children in Wicca, the degree system of Gardnerianism (carefully explained by an initiate) and the "Problem of Jesus". They include rituals for various purposes as well as announcements and letters from the community. (S-33)

•**DARK LILY** 9 (£2 from BCM Box 3406, London WC1N 3XX, UK): An occult journal with a focus on the left-hand path — which they freely admit is not the only path, or even one single path. Much of the material here is presented in dialogue form, between an adept and his pupil; the adept also answers, or at least responds to, readers' questions. In #10 the topics include laziness and conviction. There's also an article intended to dissuade those who think of Crowley as some great left-hand adept and a variety of contact information for other occult sources. (A5-28)

•**DIRECTORY TO CANADIAN PAGAN RESOURCES**, 2nd Annual Edition ($3 from Pagans For Peace, PO Box 6531, Stn. A, Toronto, ONT M5W 1X4, CANADA): A survey of bookstores, covens, magazines and other resources of particular interest to pagans living in Canada. The list was culled by care to try to limit it to particularly pagan things, without, for example, Satanists or New Agers. Brief descriptions and contact info are given for each group. (D-30r)

•**ENCHANTE** #1-2 ($3 from John Yohalem, 30 Charlton St. #6F, New York, NY 10014): It was from this new "Journal for the Urbane Pagan" that I first got the sad news of Laughing Otter's death. John reprints some of his last works on gender and paganism, along with a pagan soap opera, Rita Prince Winston and Judy Harrow on Aphrodite, and other fun stuff. The zine intends to address the basic question "What is holy?" in future issues — they're off to a good start in these two. (D-24t)

•**FENRIR** #6 (IRCs from Thormynd Press, PO Box 4, Church Stretton, Shropshire, ENGLAND): A Satanist zine which attempts to go beyond the showmanship of LaVey into something deeper — they refer to the "Seven-Fold Way". This issue also contains the script for a "Death Ritual" and notes on breath control. (A4-14)

•**FIREHEART** Spring/Summer 1989 ($3.75 from PO Box 462, Maynard, MA 01754): A most impressive pagan journal with a wide variety of viewpoints. This issue includes notes on weatherworking and shamanism, chanting and making the birth experience magickal, among other things. There's an interview with Selena Fox, plus regular columns of gay concerns, Gardnerianism, and more. (S-56t)

•**HARVEST** Vol. 9 #6 ($11/8 issues from PO Box 228, S. Framingham, MA 01701): A somewhat-eclectic pagan journal filled with contact addresses. Features in #6 cover such things as the use of candles in magic, "faerie gardening", and the pagan features of Mormonism. They print personal ads, bits of news, letters and magazine contacts as well. (S-33)

•**KINDRED SPIRITS QUARTERLY** #12 (A$8/4 issues [cash/IMO *only*] from PO Box 101, Bega, 2550 NSW, AUSTRALIA): A pagan zine that has quite strong ties to the earth through things like herbalism and the green movement. They feature notes from various folks in rural settings, bits of ritual, and a general drive to get back to the country and live in simple harmony with nature. (L-18)

•**HARVEST** Vol. 9 #5 ($11/8 issues from PO Box 228, S. Framingham, MA 01701): A pagan journal with an emphasis on networking. Every issue they publish lots of contact addresses and bits of news of interest to the community. There are also feature articles. (S-32)

•**ICE PHOENIX NEWSLETTER** Vol. 1 #1 ($10/yr from Mace Sylvan, PO Box 644, Georgetown, CA 95634): A new pagan publication that is apparently meant to link various other publications that haven't debuted yet. This one is full of big plans and advertisements for help; it remains to be seen which ones will materialize. (S-4)

•**MANTEIA** #1 ($55/5 issues from Sheila Wilding, 17645 Via Sereno, Los Gatos, CA 95030): Sheila is the US subscription agent for this English-language zine published in Denmark. The subject is "the mantic arts" — chiefly divination by way of the Tarot and similar decks of cards. Lots of new and obscure decks are illustrated, bits of information up to full articles are presented, and further sources are documented. A very nice-looking production from K. Frank Jensen, who obviously knows the field quite well. (A4-48t)

•**NEWS FROM THE MOTHER GROVE** Vol. 2 #3-4 ($2 (?) from Ar nDra'ocht Fein, PO Box 1022, Nyack, NY 10960: This organization of modern-day druids seems to be getting on a more professional footing at last. In #3 they publish financial reports for the past two years and go to some lengths to dispose of various rumors surrounding Archdruid Isaac Bonewits. #4 followed quickly, with a lot of networking information. (D-32t)

•**NOVIS: II** ($1 (?) from 2255 Lenox Rd. D2L, Atlanta, GA 30324): "A pastoral letter of Bishop Tau Sir Hasirim, EGC/OTO". This issue is a lecture on the struggle between the Great White Brotherhood and the Black Lodge, rife with magickal history and fantastic accounts of modern battles. Hard for the non-initiate to take seriously, but of some interest as an integration of Gnosticism, Crowley, and Phil Dick's VALIS. (S-8)

•**OREGON PAGAN COUNCIL NETWORK NEWSLETTER** Vol. 1 #1 (SASE (?) from PO Box 1012, Oregon City, OR 97045): Pretty much just what it says, a networking tool for pagans and other nontraditional religious folks living in Oregon. They announce forthcoming events and carry ads of interest to the community. There's also some scary stuff here on the latest LaRouchite attack on pagans. (S-8)

•**THE OWL CREEK JOURNAL** Vol. 1 #5-7 (from Sacred Earth Alliance, PO box 545, Gambier, OH 43022): Poetry, ecological news, and bits of lore from various cultures make up this pagan-flavored zine. #5 includes a note on bioluminescence, a review of the new GREEN EGG, and a few pages on the importance of water in Shinto. #7 contains several bits on fire, responses to the "Pagan Anti-Abuse Resolution", and other goodies. (D-26t)

•**PAGAN APA** #44 (Contact Rita Prince Winston, 548-3 S. Venice Blvd., Venice, CA 90291-4282): This is of course an amateur press association for pagans and fellow travelers. Discussion ranges from what local groups have been up to through the personalities of various gods and goddesses. Apparently they were overwhelmed with the response to the last mention here; if you're a serious prospect to write as well as read, drop Rita a line and a few bucks. (S-60)

•**PAGANS FOR PEACE NEWSLETTER** #40 ($15/13 issues from PO Box 6531, Stn. A, Toronto, ONT M5W 1X4, CANADA): A networking pagan publication with a variety of interests. Major concerns in this issue include the public political stance of the pagan community, pesticides and other toxins in foods, and "Creating a Personal Pantheon". (S-9)

•**PALLAS SOCIETY NEWS** Vol. 4 #1 ($2.50 from PO Box 18211, Encino, CA 91316): The Pallas Society exists to network pagans in the Southern California area — but enough of them are writers to make it a fat and interesting publication to outsiders. Running topics include Coming out of the Broom Closet, Pagan Ethics and Pagan Parenting. (HL-55)

•**THE PATH REVIEW** Vol. 3 #1-2 (1 stamp from PO Box 486, New Hyde Park, NY 11040): A rather syncretic review of various books and networks of possible interest to pagans. These range from archaeological sources to the latest from Llewellyn publications. Friendly and chatty. (S-4)

•**POINTS OF LIGHT** Vol. II #4-6 (SASE (?) from Temple of Eternal Light, 928 E. Fifth St., Brooklyn, NY 11230-2104): An open forum for pagans and Wiccans, especially from the New York City area. #4 contains some thoughts on the Caballa and its relation to Wicca. #5 has esoteric poetry and Thelemic conversation. (L-2)

•**SACRED EARTH NEWS** Spring 1989 ($1 from 1404 Gale Ln., Nashville, TN 37212): A mix of Native American and New Age teachings. They talk about the Earth Mother, for example, from both points of view. Besides newsletter articles, this group is active in prison support, and has a number of cassette tapes of their teachings available. (T-16t)

•**THE SAN DIEGAN PAGAN** Vol. 4 #2 ($2.25 from PO Box 13010, San Diego, CA 92113): A rather eclectic collection of news and articles from the area pagan and New Age communities. Most of the articles are short and basic, for example the interview with Raymond Buckland who starts by explaining what Gardnerian Wicca is. There are various notes on local events, reviews, Morris Dancing, and Tarot among the mix of features. (D-20t)

•**STARLIGHT** Time of New Leaves 1989 ($10/4 issues from Sirius, PO Box 452, 00101 Helsinki, FINLAND): A pagan voice from Scandinavia, centered in Finnish lore but branching out to the other traditions in the region. They mention all sorts of resources and zines and products (including their own incense) and do short bits on Finnish pagan history. (A5-29)

•**THE UNICORN** Vol. XII #5-6 ($10/8 issues from The Rowan Tree, PO Box 8814, Minneapolis, MN 55408): Heavy on artwork and friendliness and perhaps a bit light on chewy articles, this pagan zine is a nice change of pace. They work much gentle magical feeling into their pages, along with herbalism, short stories, and astral connections. (S-10t)

★★★★★

THE PAN-AMERICAN INDIAN ASSOCIATION NEWS #25 ($5/5 issues from PO Box 244, Nocatee, FL 33864): An Indian (i.e., Native American) tabloid with an emphasis on culture. They're less concerned with precise definitions of who is an indian than with finding an alternative to imported European lifestyles and the manias of modern civilization. Lots of social news and networking goes on here, along with some interesting philosopy. (T-16)

★★★★★

PANDEMONIUM #3 ($15 from Jack Stevenson, 171 Auburn St. #11, Cambridge, MA 02139): A perfect-bound book the size of a small phone directory, this one revolves around the lives of some strange folks in film. On the cover and the best feature inside is Johnny Eck, the guy with no legs or lower torso from the movie *Freaks*, with lots of rare photos. John Waters and a lot of folks associated with him, including Jean Hill and Mary Vivian Pearce, are also interviewed. Mike Kuchner, Kenneth Anger and George Kuchar appear too, all with lengthy talks. Plenty of photos, nice layout, a definite collectors' item for any fan of the weird in our culture. (S-193t)

★★★★★

PANDORA #23 ($3.50 from 2844 Grayson, Ferndale, MI 48220): A nice gentle collection of fantastic fiction and poetry. There are two really excellent stories in this issue. Mike Thorne's "Spittin' Image" is fantasy set in modern technology that works, while Peni Griffin's "Rainy Raindrop" is closer to SF, an enjoyable romp through alien psychology. Sandra Lindow has an excellent poem, as do several others. (D-48)

★★★★★

PANMAG #4-13 ($2 (?) from Mark Bloch, PO Box 1500, New York, NY 10009): These documents emerged from the mail art scene in the mid-80s, but they're still available (though interesting correspondence may get you a copy faster than cash) so here they are. #4 (from 1984) documents a meeting between a number of noted mail artists to discuss the political impact of the network. #10 looks back to the death of dada and its continuing echoes. #13 reproduces a batch of postcards received from the network in 1980. History in the making here, with no doubt more to come. (various, from D-16r to S-3r)

★★★★★

PAPER RADIO #6 ($2.33 from Neil Kvern & Dagmar Howard, PO Box 85302, Seattle, WA 98145-1302): A journal that's open to all manner of experimental literature and art, from Mike Miskowski's photocopy-muddled texts to drawings from Walt Phillips to collage by the Phleghm Pets. There's lots of poetry in this issue, much of it more suggestive than explanatory, as well as what appear to be cutup short stories and a few bits of experioddica. Looking for submissions of just about any form whatsoever. (S-28t)

★★★★★

PARANOIS FREE PRESS #8 ($1 (?) from Von K. Lechner, 115 Coolidge Ave., Collingwood, NJ 08108): A zine of all editorial content, along with classy little photocopy illustrations of a consuming society gone mad. Von rants about governmental control, the nuisance of reality, the decline of

Pink Floyd and the new dark ages with equal facility. Better than the Op-Ed page of our local paper. (S-14)

★★★★★

PARTS III ($3 from 451 Moody St. #134, Waltham, MA 02154): This zine is loosely centered on the movie *Re-Animator*, but branches out pretty widely: SubGenius (with the legendary Ivan Stang appearing twice in this issue!), Lovecraftian and other horror fiction, and the merits of cannibalism all get attention. There's also a nude Freddy Krueger centerfold and and a selection of bizarre merchandise. (S-33t)

★★★★★

PASSAGEWAYS Vol. 1 #2 ($2 cash from 2355 Cove Ave. #202, Los Angeles, CA 90039): A new journal of "love and personal commitment — with integrity, compassion and intelligence". It's devoted mostly to short essays, from people who care about themselves and others, on the important things in their life. Many will find it sappy or platitudinous, but there are truths lurking here to be learned. (S-8t)

★★★★★

PCC HELLDWELLERS #17 ($2 from PO Box 690816, San Antonio, TX 78219-0816): A wild collection of rants, raves, and anti-social and alternative behavior. Includes an interview with Joe Christ, Bonnie Hagan on being a punk in a women's prison, free SILENCE=DEATH stickers, notes on San Antonio college culture, and lots more. With eyecatching fluorescent pink covers, deranged collages, and other intriguing details, this one can be puzzled over for hours. (S-27r)

★★★★★

PEACE March 1989 (On Request from PO Box 1088, Violet, LA 70092): A Christian publication that looks like a fanzine, though the content is entirely preaching. They don't especially try to be subtle; the message here is basically "Become a Christian, or else!" Lots of pleas to open your heart and accept Jesus. The title comes from Isaiah 26:3, which seems a bit ironic considering the bald threat at the end of that chapter. (HL-20)

★★★★★

PEACE & FREEDOM Vol. 6 #1 ($2 from Paul Rance, 17 Farrow Rd., Whaplode Drove, Spalding, Lincs, PE12 0TS, UK): A zine for creativity and a sort of generalized happy life. They get into new and home-made music, animal rights, poetry and a few other things. Reviews fill the odd corner of the zine, from poetry chapbooks to a Tchaikovsky concerto. A wide net of alternative culture. (A5-48r)

★★★★★

THE PEACEMAKER Vol. 42 #3 ($10/12 issues donation from PO Box 627, Garberville, CA 95440): A journal of support for the hardcore of nonviolent resisters to state-sponsored violence. These are people who demonstrate at Air Force bases, or refuse to pay their federal taxes, or put their lives on the line in El Salvador. Inspirational and a bit awe-inspiring. (T-8)

★★★★★

PEACE MEDIA SERVICE #5 ($65/10 issues from Kanisstraat 5, NL-1811 GJ Alkmaar, HOLLAND): An international collection of news and stories about peace and nonviolence. This is sort of a wire service for the social justice community, with an explicitly religious (though not necessarily Christian) bent. Some of the news featured in #5: pacifism in the USSR, the Rushdie affair, COs in South Africa, and the roots of terrorism. (A4-18)

★★★★★

PEACEWORK #187-188 ($8/yr from American Friends Service Committee, 2161 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140): A strong and consistent voice in the social justice movement. These people give space to a host of progressive causes, from fighting germ warfare research to fighting for affordable housing, opposing Seabrook to demanding equal-access transportation for the disabled. #187 has a few words of remembrance of Abbie Hoffman. #188 leads off with the question of integrating environmental action into the social change movements. (S-16t)

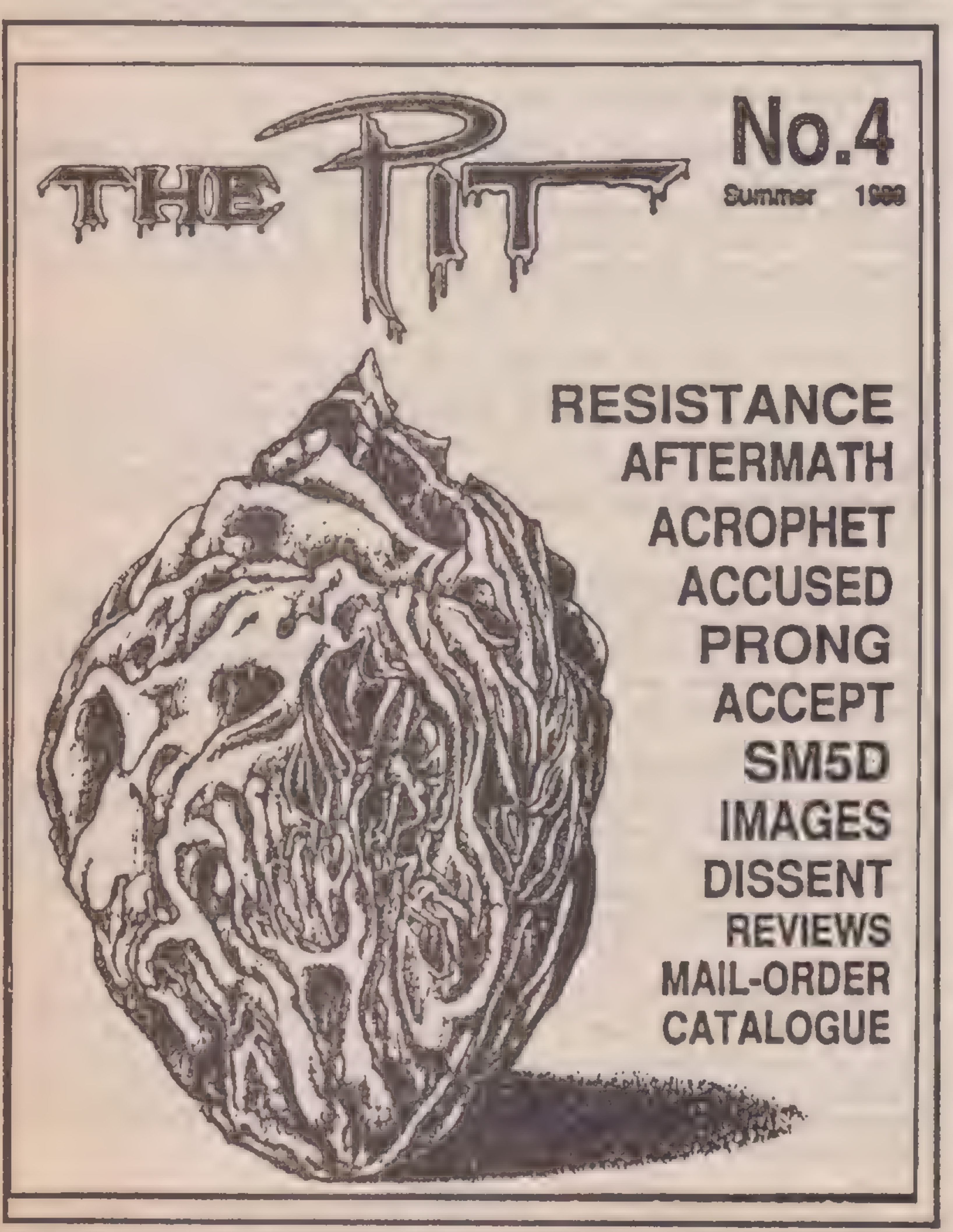
★★★★★

PELTEX #8 W (8f. from Model-Peltex, 3 rue des Couples, 67000 Strasbourg, FRANCE): This continues a series of minature chapbooks, each devoted to the work of artists whose last name begins with a particular letter of the alphabet. In this issue we have first Willem, who does realistic sketches of everyday objects and happenings, from hand-held mixers to protest signs, and then Eric Watier, with very abstract snapshots that could be people or space aliens. (M-24)

★★★★★

PENGUIN DIP #24-25 ($15/10 issues from Stephen H. Dorneman, 94 Eastern Ave. #1, Malden, MA 02148):A combination science fiction amd Diplomacy zine. Stephen uses the back half of the zine to run have a dozen Diplomacy games; the front is reserved for locs, zine reviews, and short articles. A review of the Prodigy BBS service graces #24. In #25, Lawrence Watt-Evans gives some hints for writers of fantasy. And of course the game moves continue apace. (S-20)

★★★★★



pit;(pit) *n.* 1. an indentation or depression in the earth 2. a deep hole *e.g. pit of hell* 3. the large seed of a family of fruit such as peaches, avocados *et al.* 4. a repair/service area or audience section at motoring races and events *e.g. pit stop* **5. the catazine published by MOSH PIT RECORDS, always packed with interviews, photos, reviews, articles, and their famous no-holds-barred catalogue of underground hardcore, thrash and industrial music and magazines from around the globe.**

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PEOPLE TO PEOPLE #7 (West Midlands Arts, 82 Granville Street, Birmingham B1 2LH, UK): This is meant to be free locally, but perhaps appropriate trades would garner you a copy. It's a community-based mostly-literary magazine, with poetry, essays, short stories, non-fiction and a networking section. It looks like there are things to be learned here by other alternative communities, though public subsidy is harder to come by in this country. (A4-24t)

★★★★★

PEPTALK Vol. 6 #1 ($9/4 issues from PO Box 5247, Eugene, OR 97405): The newsletter of Polyfidelitious Educational Productions, a group promoting closed, equal group marriages as an alternative lifestyle. They're acting both to support those already on this path and to make it easier for others to start. Networking, success stories, and letters make up the bulk of the contents. (S-8t)

★★★★★

PERMANENT PRESS #1 ($1 (?) from Elaine Belsito, 7106 N. Sheridan Box R-3, Chicago, IL 60626): A collection of oblique and somewhat unstructured short stories and poems. There is a gauzy quality to it all, as if the writers are more concerned with conveying an emotion than a plot, and the reader is left with a feeling of unreality when all is over. A fragile collection for a fragile mood. (D-32r)

★★★★★

PFIQ #26 ($11 from Gauntlet, 8720 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90069): That stands for Piercing Fans International Quarterly, and it's directed at people who like to have jewelry inserted through various parts of their body, from ears to genitalia. The magazine is extremely well-done, with a mix of how-to articles, letters from readers, and photography of exotic piercings. It's all on slick paper and done with loving care, but definitely not for the squeamish. You can get their catalog of jewelry from the same address for $3. (S-31t)

★★★★★

PHALLOS May 1989 ($2 from Saint Priapus Church, 583 Grove St., San Francisco, CA 94102): A newsletter from the Church that runs a phallic worship session on a regular basis and also provides much food to the homeless through their Gay Rescue Mission. They're sometimes flamboyant, but mostly terribly sincere about the spiritual possibilities of sex, especially gay sex. (D-16r)

★★★★★

PHILLY ZINE #8 ($1.25 from Sean Gustilo, 101 Princeton Rd., Glassboro, NJ 08028): Back after a long delay, this one is bigger than ever before, with Sean taking over from original editor Jesse Townley who's off to college — although Jesse still contributes plenty of music reviews. Basically they're into that, show reviews, and interviews: Geko, M.O.V., Malcolm Tent, Danzig, and more. A densely-packed zine. (S-50r)

★★★★★

THE PHOENIX'S NEW PAPER Vol. 2 #13-22 ($1 (?) from 131 Washington St., Providence, RI 02903): #13 features Madonna and Throwing Muses on opposite pages, in a sort of musical cognitive dissonance spread. #15 reports on the mammoth pro-choice demonstration in Washington a few months back. #18 explains why RU-486 hasn't a hope of being sold in this country. #19 includes a page on Rhode Island's contributions to the cyberpunk literature. #20 has another article on skinheads and a longish Elliott Sharp review. #22 includes their quarterly home-electronics review section. (T-48t)

★★★★★

PIRATE JENNY #3 ($3 from Pat Mueller, 618 Westridge, Duncanville, TX 75116): Pat is producing a science fiction fanzine in a reasonably traditional, introspective vein. Most of the contents here concern either the literature or fandom itself: book reviews, convention reports, letter column arguments over the decline of fandom. There's also a nuke plant tour and an amusing article on the psychic predictions of Criswell, the guy who introduced PLAN 9 FROM OUTER SPACE. (S-32t)

★★★★★

THE PIT #4 ($2 from Mosh Pit Records, PO Box 9545, Colorado Springs, CO 80932): A combination music zine and catalog for Mosh Pit, which carries an assortment of indie music and zines. They tend towards loud and thrashy sorts of bands: Aftermath, Acrophet, Accept, Resistance, Prong. They also, as you can see, don't spend all their pages on the critical faves. There's also movie and video reviews and a chat with the editors of SKATE MUTIES FROM THE FIFTH DIMENSION in this issue. (S-42t)

★★★★★

PITCH #104 ($10/6 months from 207 Westport #203, Kansas City, MO 64111): This is the KC arts & entertainment tabloid. It's not up to the standards of the big-city ones, but it does have its pluses. For one thing, they carry Chuck Shepherd's column of strange news (Chuck is the publsisher of VIEW FROM THE LEDGE). For another, their entertainment coverage is solid if limited in scope, and the feature articles are mostly not too annoying. Still, it's best for local concumption only. (T-32t)

★★★★★

PITTSBURGH HISTORY Winter 1989 ($25/4 issues from The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, 4338 Bigelow Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15213): One of hundreds of local historical journals — I mention it here are representative of the class, since a copy fell into my hands, and it's a realm of the small press we often ignore. Solid writing on incidents of admittedly local interest, from the expansion of the Homestead mill in 1941 to the modern history of natural gas salesmanship. (S-56t)

★★★★★

PLAGIARISTIC TENDENCIES #7 ($1 (?) from Sara Edwards, PO Box 66, Route 16, Ischua, NY 14743): This issue has the subtitle "picture This", and except for occasional scraps of words contributed by Carol Schneck it's all photographs. These aren't captioned, so it's hard to tell who's who, but there are several members of the print underground featured here including Dr. Iguana, Kyle Hogg, and Sara herself. (S-11)

★★★★★

PLAIN BROWN WRAPPER #248-249 ($1.50 from Jude Grant, 1241 W. 10th St., Erie, PA 16502): Jude lost a job with the Erie Catholic Diocese over this zine but continues to publish nonetheless. It's sort of an alternative litmag, featuring stories and poems with strange and eerie twists. Sigmund Weiss checks in with a disturbing psychosexual tale in #248, which also has drug comics and a fight between Samson and Hercules. #249 features five bizarre animal-in-a-microwave stories. (S-32)

★★★★★

PLAIN BROWN WRAPPER #5 ($4 from Richard Freeman, 130 W. Limestone, Yellow Springs, OH 45387): This is the last print issue of this collection of miscellany; starting in September it goes to floppy disk. The collection leads off with Richard's own diary, ruminations, and investigations of the English language. Gradually it moves into poetry, short stories, film reviews, wrestling reports, dirty movies, and other things contributed by readers. A lot of words for the money. (S-145)

★★★★★

THE PLEASURE THAT ABIDETH FOR A MOMENT #2 ($1 (?) from Charlene X. Paul, 11940 Woodbridge, N. Hollywood, CA 91604): Charlene asks that you include a note with any order because she's not some impersonal corporate publisher. This is a collection of stuff that has intrigued her, from a Kramer interview to ideas on how to screw up corporate America. Anarchy, music, creativity, despair and hope intermingle in these pages. (S-18)

★★★★★

POLEMIC #3 ($2 from 70 High Street, Leicester, LE1 5YP, ENGLAND): A pretty feisty anarchist activist zine — the back cover has a picture of Maggie Thatcher bluntly captioned "Kill Her!". Most of #3 consists of letters reacting to an article in #2 about the lack of connections between pornography and violence against women. There's also some animal liberation stuff including an article about the horrors of bullfighting. (A5-24r)

★★★★★

POLITICAL PIX #64 ($39/50 issues from Ambience, Inc., PO Box 804, Main Street, Norwich, VT 05055-0804): A collection of syndicated political cartoons, for those who like their opinions in pictorial form. There's a mix of conservative and liberal portrayals of the issues here, as a wide variety of syndicated sources are used. (S-6)

★★★★★

PONGO QUEST Vol. 1 #2 ($25/yr from The Orangutan Foundation, 822 S. Wellesley Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90049): Newsletter of a group dedicated to preserving wild orangutans and rain forests alike. They are involved in research as well as conservation, and have links with the Earthwatch research volunteer program. This issue describes some recent work and makes a pitch for more funds. (S-8t)

★★★★★

POPPIN' ZITS #6 ($2 from Jerod Pore, 1800 Market St. #141, San Francisco, CA 94102): A journal from the future, when people's thoughts flow in different, jerky patterns. Jerod dredges up some of the odd things in the world and lays them on us: strange trade magazines ("Invisible Literature") which serve as a source for collages, esoteric conspiracy theories, cyberfiction. Prisoners and their hassles. Computer industry seminars. Pretty wild stuff. (S-28t)

★★★★★

POSITIVELY ENTERTAINMENT & DINING Vol. 13 #5 ($15/yr from PO Box 16009, Portland, OR 97216): A guide to music and occasional other entertainment in the Portland area. They cover festivals and clubs, reporting who will be where, and reviewing upcoming and local artists. Blues, jazz, and pop seem to be the main foci. (T-16t)

★★★★★

POSITIVE YOUTH BETTER FUTURE #1 ($1 from PO Box 1100, Ocean City, NJ 08226): A new punk zine with some straightedge stuff although they take a much broader definition of "positive" in general. Mostly this looks at the music, with bands like Implement, the Fiendz, and Warzone involved. Lots of trade ads, little bits of opinions tucked in the corners, and more. A rocky start, especially in the printing, but shows some promise. (S-18r)

★★★★★

POST CARD SLUT #3 ($1 (no checks) & Age Statement from 260 38th St. #2, Oakland, CA 94611): A collection of postcards printed on bright stock, 4 cards to the page — all you have to do is cut and mail them (if you dare). Subject matter ranges from supermarket tabloid stories to pierced genitalia to oddball cartoons top the latest in condoms. Definitely not the sort of thing you find in the Woolworth's racks. (S-5)

★★★★★

THE PRAGMATIST Vol. 6 #5-6 ($10/yr from PO Box 392, Forest Grove, PA 18922): A journal of libertarian analysis and opinion. #5 focuses largely on the roads, coming forth with sensible stands on speed limits, "check lanes", drunk drivers and other modern menaces. #6 leads off with John Chodes on the working conditions in 19th century factories (rather a whitewash piece, actually), and goes on to the possible savings from abolishing taxes and the ineptitude of the government as a landlord. (S-16t)

★★★★★

THE PRAIRIE RAMBLER #141-143 ($1.23 from PO Box 505, Claremont, CA 91711-0505): The wisdom of the ages, as mined from the library by editor Jerry B. He comes up with bits ranging from one-liners to short essays and from ancient times to last week — John Cleese and Cicero are both in #142, for example. A valuable addition to anyone's store of bathroom literature. (S-8)

★★★★★

THE PRINTER'S DEVIL #7 (On Request from Joe Singer, PO Box 135, Harrison, ID 83833-0135): A journal directed at the small printer, though many small publishers (i.e., those who don't own their own means of production) could benefit from reading it as well. Joe rounds up a bunch of folks who have strong opinions on the right & cheap way to print things, including Merritt Clifton and Stephen Perkins, and throws in a great deal of miscellaneous information as well. I learn new things from every issue that help in dealing with my own printing problems. (O-28t)

★★★★★

PRINTER'S INK Vol. 5 #1 (On Request from Thomson-Shire, Inc., 7300 W. Joy Rd., PO Box 305, Dexter, MI 48130-6219): A newsletter from a company who does lots of short-run book printing work. While their primary purpose is to drum up business, they feature lots of news bits on things like paper prices as well as hints on design and working with manufacturers. There's also chatty stuff about what they've been up to lately. (S-6t)

★★★★★

THE PRISON MIRROR Vol. 102 #18 ($5 for prisoners or $10 for others from PO Box 55, Stillwater, MN 55082-0055): A prison newspaper that compares favorably with many college papers I've seen. It has some of the same format, leading off with national and state prison news and ending up with reports from the sporting activities of the institution. Pretty low-key, but a decent source on prisoners' rights issues. (T-16t)

★★★★★

PROBE Vol. 1 #1 ($3.50 from Castillo Cultural Center, 500 Greenwich St. #201, New York, NY 10013): "The Intelligence Magazine of the Working Left", this one is ostensibly investigating the intelligence community and the leftist response to it. But there seems to be a lot of material on the New Alliance Party here...denials of their past ties to LaRouche...ads for some of their enterprises...what do you know, these folks have the same address! I don't know what to make of that, but I sure don't take their analysis without salt. (S-48t)

★★★★★

THE PROGRESSIVE PRAGMATIST Vol. III #6-Vol. IV #1 ($12/8 issues from 3214 Tibbett Ave., Bronx, NY 10463): A zine of political commentary and quotations. They take a broadly liberal view, but are sort of hard to pin down on the ideological spectrum at times. Serious but yet still full of the silly side of the political game, with people from Geraldo to Cuomo being mentioned in #6. #7 has a good deal on various repugnant politicians, ultimately settling on Jesse Helms as the "most grotesque". (S-16)

★★★★★

THE PROMISE LAND TIMES 19 April-13 July 1989 ($1/5 issues from Packrat Press, PO Box 5498, Atlanta, GA 30307): The latest wall paper from Kerry Thornley, full of conspiracies, zen, and revolution. Among the topics covered are the JFK assassination, revolution in China, war crimes trials for Americans, and the Permanent Universal Rent Strike. You never know what mind-bending idea the next page will bring. Kerry may also have copies of his other wall papers, including **KULTCHA** and **DECADENT WORKER**, available, with similar concerns. (S-1)

★★★★★

PROTO GROINK! #1 (SASE from DRZB, 1947A W. 17th, Eugene, OR 97402): Actually the announcement of a zine, done as a small zine itself. GROINK is apparently intended to be another home for strange madness and apocalyptic writing. This paper lays out a basic cosmology of battling mega-corporations, and announces the preservation of free thought as the goal. Sorta SubGeniod in its echoes. (S-2r)

★★★★★

PSYCHEDELIC COLORING BOOK #1 (50¢ from Donovan P. Day, 2609 Larman Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46229): A collection of elaborate doodles in black and white. Most of them would be a tad difficult to color, given the exceeding smallness of the white spaces (not to mention the notebook paper lines which show on some copies). Briefly pleasant but without much substance. (D-14)

★★★★★

PSYCHIC SEX TURNIP #7-8 ($1 from 3706 Timberlake Rd. #101, Johnson City, TN 37601): A somewhat bizarre music zine that seems to want to confuse rather than inform with its interviews. #7 has Ludichrist and Bar-B-Que Killers, while #8 features Rednecks in Pain. There's also plenty of live coverage and in-depth reviews of a few fanzines. (S-26)

★★★★★

PSYCHOTRONIC VIDEO #2 ($3 from Michael J. Weldon, 151 First Ave. Dept. PV, New York, NY 10003): A guide to strange cinema by one of the world's psychotronic experts. Weldon reviews all sorts of obscure and sleazy movies, and has some interesting features to boot. This time it's an interview with Joe Spinell, one with Robert Wise, and a feature on TV host Ghoulardi. Packed with trivial detail that the hardcore video fan will flip for. (S-44t)

★★★★★

PSYCHOVISION #1 (50¢ from Rupert Bottenberg, 66 Fieldfare Ave., Beaconsfield, QUE H9W 4W6, CANADA): A new collection of popular culture from the fringes. This issue features Elvis impersonators on stage and in the news, plus disgusting comics. There's also a review/appreciation of the legendary film *Freaks*, with its cast of sideshow oddities. (D-20)

★★★★★

PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM #3 ($1 (?) from 1727 Twombley, DeKalb, IL 60115): An alternative student paper emanating form Northern Illinois University. Unlike most such, it has no especial political agenda, preferring instead to present humor, art, underground reviews, and some thoughtful articles. Campus news mixes with national stuff (the failed Iranian hostage rescue attempt in this issue). Back page of #3 has a hilarious **NEWS & LETTERS** parody to boot. (T-8)

★★★★★

PUBLIC ENEMA #1A (2 stamps from Ted House, 1509 Walker Ave. #3, Greensboro, NC 27403): This time around this little rantzine goes into the current activities of the mother state, arguing that hi-tech and homogenized culture are being used as tools of social control. There's also the first part of a seriel, "A Guide to Household Higher Consciousness". Looking for challenging underground works to publish. (S-8)

★★★★★

THE PUBLIC FORUM Vol. 1 #2 ($15/12 issues from PO Box 393, Agoura Hills, CA 91376-0393): A news source on humanitarian issues of various kinds. #2 features a strong anti-vivisection blast, a summary of the Christic Institute findings on the Secret Team, and notes on PBS's lack of fairness. Nothing really new, but rather a series of issues digested for new readers. (S-16t)

★★★★★

PWA COALITION NEWSLINE #43 ($35/yr from 31 W. 26th St., 5th Fl., New York, NY 10010): The journal of a group which provides all manner of support for people with AIDS, from a hotline to medical and legal news to meals to support groups. There's quite a network of such support in NYC, and this is the easiest way to tap in if you need it. They report on all manner of alternative therapies as well as the current official line, without endorsing any particular approach. (S-72t)

★★★★★

PWALIVE Vol. 2 #3-4 (Donation from PO Box 6089, Minneapolis, MN 55406): A newsletter for people with AIDS and those in their lives that's getting more impressive all the time. The stories here are of honesty and hope, of new ways to deal with both the medical and the social experience that is AIDS. They also print a lot of addresses for area resources, and do their best to get people plugged into a supportive network. #4 leads off with several articles on the inadequacies of current media coverage of AIDS. (S-16t)

★★★★★

PYLON #2-3 (50¢ (?) from PO Box 38236, Germantown, TN 38183-0236): A fairly lightweight zine of music and stuff. On the other hand, I don't imagine there's a lot of scene in Germantown. Anyhow, #2 has an interview with Private War, while #3 plugs the Shell boycott. Both issues have poetry and reviews. (D-8r)

★★★★★

PYRAMID 3:2 ($1.50 from 508 Hawks Ave., Vancouver, BC V6A 3H9, CANADA): A mail art magazine with no particular theme, though in homage to the title many contributors have sent news clippings about pyramids or triangular art. The photocopy machine is the tool of choice here, used mainly to juxtapose rather than to distort, and the zine is small enough to avoid overload. (D-37)

★★★★★

PYROTECHNICS 42 (6 25¢ stamps *[NO TRADES]* from Mary Lynn Johnson, 901 Lorlyn Dr. #3B, West Chicago, IL 60185): The zine of General Technics, a SF fan group actually interested in science. #42 contains basic directions on building a cheap MacIntosh clone on an old Heathkit chassis (I knew I shouldn't have ditched the thing!), various bits of information on cold fusion (including a build-you-own joke design) and some history of nuclear-fueled rocket programs. Pretty fun though a bit deep for some folks. (S-20r)

★★★★★

QUANTUM RABBIT PIE SHIFTER #3 (SASE/donation from PO Box 993, St. Charles, IL 60174): A now-defunct high school underground paper with SubGenius and surreal influences.. It's more concerned with painting a bizarre picture of the modern world than attacking administrators — despite which the editors got in trouble for it. By some of the editors of FNORD magazine. (S-10t)

★★★★★

QUIMBY #16 ($3 from PO Box 281, Astor Stn., Boston, MA 02123): This issue is heavy on comics and music (interviews with The Zulus and Think Tree) than previous outings have been. There's correspondingly less of other bizarre art, although a few classic stories reprinted from **DUPLEX PLANET** and a Mic McInnis short story do extend the range. There's also a free "Bark if you Love Jesus" bumper sticker. (S-40t)

★★★★★

RABID #3-4 ($1 from 141 James St., Morristown, NJ 07960): A music zine that is mostly reviews — and if you know the sort of music Homestead puts out you'll have a good idea what **RABID** reviews. Editor Alex is one of the few people I've ever known who actually likes Happy Flowers — enough so that there's an interview with Mr. Horribly Charred Infant in #3. Steve Albini also consents to answer a few questions. #4 is bigger and better and more varied, with chats with Mike Watt and Mudhoney and Laughing Hyenas and another mess of record reviews. (HL-24 & S-11r)

★★★★★

RACIAL LOYALTY #51 ($15/yr from Church of the Creator, PO Box 400, Otto, NC 28763): A anti-semetic racist scum tabloid which is so ridiculously hateful that even the KKK has written to complain — the Church of the Creator sees Christ as a Jewish plot. They have a lot of literature out, including **THE WHITE MAN'S BIBLE**, and they seem really active in sending it all to prisons, as well as doing outreach to the skinheads. A scary and violent-sounding kook. (T-12t)

★★★★★

R.@.D. #45 ($1 *CASH* from Juliet Jake, PO Box 867, Morro Bay, CA 93442): Rebellion, music, and whatever else Juliet gets interested in at the moment including having wisdom teeth removed. This issue has some 1990's apocalypticism, a John Trubee interview (what a guy!) and a pile of book and record reviews. (HL-28r)

★★★★★

RADIO FREE THULCANDRA #17 ($2 or The Usual from Marty Helgesen, 11 Lawrence Ave., Malverne, NY 11565): A zine for Christian science fiction fandom. It's interdenominational in tone, being quite open to anyone who happens to believe in the divinity of Jesus Christ. They discuss Christianity in both stories and fandom itself, with an exchange of letters being the primary content here. (S-34)

★★★★★

RAG OF HATE ZINNIE #1 (75¢ from c/o Krouse, RD #2, Box 166, New Castle, PA 16101): Apparently the response to a bad day the editor had, this is a collection of things to hate. These range from people acting like idiots at concerts to overblown competition in society to macho idiots. The editor invites submissions for future issues. (D-8)

★★★★★

RAGTIME #11 ($1 (?) from Charles Clark, PO Box 15674, Minneapolis, MN 55415): A zine that is sort of centered on CCM (Christian Contemporary Music) but not limited by it. Charles reviews both secular and Christian albums, both indie and major label. In this issue he also runs down his fave albums of all time, interviews Glen Kaiser of Rez, and gives and excellent overview of the CCM zine scene, listing many things that I don't review. (D-20t)

★★★★★

RAM-PAGES #1 (6x9 envelope and 50¢ stamps from Carl Cella, D-22706, PO Box 8101, San Luis Obispo, CA 93409-0001): Before ending up behind bars Carl was active in the heavy metal band Rampage, and this is his way of getting reconnected with the music community. It's mostly a get acquainted issue, with some music and zine reviews, a short story, and a bit about his scheme for water-powered cars. (D-8)

★★★★★

RAR CHALLENGE Vol. 9 #1 ($25/yr from 132 N. Euclid Ave., Pasadena, CA 91101): This one comes from the Interfaith Center to Reverse the Arms Race, a group which feels that the exclusive insistence on nuclear disarmament does not get to the real issues of pervasive militarism and the dangers of conventional weapons. They try to offer policy alternatives and to build grassroots peace bridges at the same time. (S-4t)

★★★★★

RATS WITH KEYS #8-9 ($1 from 1428 Nadeau, Los Angeles, CA 90019): An amazing little zine. The covers in particular are unique, with #8 having a free cookie taped to the front and #9 being a transparent spraypainted extravaganza. Inside are hallucinatory sex stories, comics, bits of trivia, crossword puzzles that don't work, fake book and band names, and other wild things. From a dimension only slightly touching our own. (S-34t)

★★★★★

THE RAVEN #5 ($1 from PO Box 295, Schertz, TX 78154): A music zine with a wild outlook on life. The highlight here is an interview with GG Allin that looks like it was transcribed verbatim; the king of the losers seems to be in pretty incoherent shape these days. Nitro Puppy also gets to talk for a while, and then there are reviews and weird little stories and comics. Pretty crass but pleased with itself. (S-22)

★★★★★

RAVE SENSATION #1 ($1 from Dan Snoke, 1830 Irving St. NW, Washington, DC 20010): Another zine that wallows in popular culture. This time it's Asian movies, a variety of independent comics, and a few odd books about exploitation films. More an appreciation than a review, although there are tips on a few things worth seeing and some appropriately silly pictures. (S-8)

★★★★★

THE RAZOR'S EDGE #2 ($1 from Kalki Dasa, PO Box 400271, Brooklyn, NY 11240-0271): This one looks like your average newsprint punkzine, and in fact there's even a Youth of Today interview inside. But the main thrust is to bring Krishna consciousness to a new audience. Yes, this is a Krishna mission to the punks, and it's got lots of stuff on vegetarianism, reincarnation, and living the good life in it. Well done and with a healthy dose of humor included. (S-20t)

★★★★★

READER Vol. 18 #33 ($25/yr from 11 E. Illinois, Chicago, IL 60611): The biggest free weekly alternative community paper I've ever seen; the issue at hand tips the scales at just over a pound. Inside is the usual mix of news, classifieds (rommates, matchmaking, you name it) and entertainment listings. They don't stick to "safe" stories either; the lead in this one is about private adoption, while a recent issue apparently slammed Jesus as a false messiah, judging from the letters here. (T-156t)

★★★★★

READ ME Vol. 2 #2 ($1.50 from 1118 Hoyt Ave., Everett, WA 98201): A literary magazine in tabloid form with a wide variety of features. There are opinion pieces and short stories, somewhat experimental works and purely descriptive ones, puzzles and contests. They pack an awful lot into these pages and I always find a few to give me a chuckle or a start. Seems sort of small townish in its concern with good writing and everyday subjects. (T-24t)

★★★★★

REAL FOODS PRODUCE REPORT 4/25/89-5/16/89 (SASE from 531 Belvedere #5, San Francisco, CA 94117): Just what the title says, a report on fruit and vegetables in the San Francisco area. John Dowdell covers prices, the latest on the organic market, what's good this week, how to take the pits out of mangoes, what chemicals are sprayed on asparagus, and so on. I'm fascinated, but then, I'm also heavily involved with the local food co-op. (S-2)

★★★★★

REALISTIC LIVING #10 ($10/yr from PO Box 140826, Dallas, TX 75214): "A Journal on Ethics and Religion". Though Gene and Joyce Marshall work from a Christian background, they're more interested in humanistic values than any particular dogma, and they make a lot of sense most of the time (I have my doubts about some of the nutritional ideas Gene puts forth in this issue). I find the most useful part of this journal to be the book reviews — they cover a wide variety of socially responsible works in enough depth to be informative. (S-16t)

★★★★★

THE REALITY ISN'T REALISTICALLY REAL SOCIETY #3 ($1 & a stamp from Slimy P. Vomit, 1625 Douglas St., Sioux City, IA 51104): A fanzine of sick humor and anti-SubGenius ranting. This issue features photos of some sort of brain operation, phallic symbols in advertising, and a discussion of punk rock violins. They also have stickers and membership cards available. (S-14)

★★★★★

REALLY, RHINOS! Vol. 2 #4-Vol. 3 #1 (Sample on request from Judyth Lessee, PO Box 1285, Tucson, AZ 85702-1285): A small newsletter for fans of the rhinoceros. They feature articles on the real thing (and part of the $15 annual subscription is donated to rhino conservation projects), plus news on rhino collectibles. There's a club for everyone, I guess. (S-4t)

★★★★★

RED BUDDHA #47 ($10/12 issues from Rev. N.B. Shifferly, Mind-Way Church, PO Box 664, Mansfield, OH 44901): The newsletter of Zendokan Budokai, a group which takes an eclectic attitude towards teaching "the Way of the Warrior". They have some emphasis on helping prisoners, and much of this issue is concerned with a current hassle with prison administration. There's also some basic notes on performing the tea ceremony. (S-6)

★★★★★

THE REED COLLEGE SMALL PRESS COLLECTIVE #1-2 ($2 (?) from Jon Paul Davis, Box 266, 3203 SE Woodstock Blvd., Portland, OR 97202): That's a school address so you might hold off until September to write. This is basically a collective of widely varied literary and other work from Reed students: poems, stories, sheet music, translations, art, graffiti, and more. It's not an official project and maintains a nice sense of wonder at the world. Lovely fingerpainted cover on #2. (S-46t)

★★★★★

RE-IGNITION #2 ($1.50 from 1163 E. First St., Tustin, CA 92680): A hardcore fanzine that has a bold, stark look to match the music they cover. Inside is mostly interviews: Swiz, Insted, Blind Approach, Freewill, Hard Stance. They also review shows (what few there are in Orange County), records and written stuff. (S-24r)

★★★★★

RELIGION WATCH Vol. 4 #7-9 ($15/11 issues from Richard P. Cimino, PO Box 652, North Bellmore, NY 11710): A monthly survey of religious news from all over the place, digesting and synthesizing dozens of sources. #7 checks out the growing interest in the fate of the Orthodox Church under glasnost. One of the bits in #8 surveys the wide spectrum of groups incorporating New Age teachings. #9 reports on the status of Christianity in China following the disturbances there. (S-8)

★★★★★

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ALERT Vol. V #5 ($15/yr from Coalition for Religious Freedom, 325 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20003): A publication tracking relations between church and state from the religious point of view. They carry dozens of news stories on things like home schooling, disputes over firing for religious beliefs, and the real dimensions of Satanism. A good source of information. (S-16t)

★★★★★

RENAISSANCE FAN #6 (The Usual from Rosalind Malin & Dick Pilz Jr., 2214 SE 53rd, Portland, OR 97215): A lovely science fiction zine that is mostly fiction this time around, with the theme of "world-building". There are several varieties of stories here, including a group set in a shared world designed by Roz and Dick in previous issues. Every copy features lots of hand-coloring, stickers, and other add-ons; this results in a low press run so perhaps you should write and explain how you intend to justify getting a copy before sending your stuff along. (S-20t)

★★★★★

RESTORE #2-3 (75¢ from Mike Thain, 621 Bassett Rd., Bay Village, OH 44140): A little music zine that promises to go monthly soon. The second issue features interviews with Ludichrist and Civil Disobedience plus some local news and show reviews. #3 has a chat with Dirty Rotten Imbeciles. (D-16)

★★★★★

RETRO-ROCK Vol. 2 #3/4 ($2.25 from 44 E. 5th St., Brooklyn, NY 11218): "The Underground Alternative" is the somewhat egocentric masthead statement on this music fanzine. Though they're not any more underground than anything else I review, they do pack a lot into this hefty package: interviews with The Last, the Coolies, Gang Green and Freaks for starters. Then comes about 30 pages of reviews, mostly records but also video and printed stuff. Well-written and wide in its coverage. (S-48)

★★★★★

RIFRAF ROCKZINE #1 (5 IRCs (?) from PO Box 1, B-2710 Hoboken 1, BELGIUM): A new and pretty looking slick magazine devoted to new music. Of course, I can't read most of it, but I can tell you there are articles on the Pixies, Guns 'n Roses, the Mudgang, and "Garagerock in Belgie". Lots of photos, neat layouts, looking for ads. (A4-15t)

★★★★★

RI MOBILIZATION FOR SURVIVAL NEWSLETTER May 1989 ($10/yr from PO Box 2534, Providence, RI 02906): A rallying point for nonviolent resistance to various nasty things being done today, from testing nuclear weapons to denying human rights. The newsletter acts as a way to find out about and help a whole raft of social justice organizations, and contains an extensive calendar as well as short articles. (T-8)

★★★★★

RINGO'S CATALOGUE #3 (Not for sale; exchange with other pop art zines & catalogues from Apartat 36098, 08080 Barcelona, CATALUNYA, off Spain): Ringo used to publish the music zine REACCIONES, but now he's gotten into the pop art scene. This is a catalog of some of his recent works, illustrated with color reproductions and containing explanatory text. Quite striking. (D-16)

★★★★★

ROCK & ROLL CONFIDENTIAL #68-69 ($24/yr from PO Box 15052, Long Beach, CA 90815): Basically rock music industry gossip, but it works because editor Dave Marsh isn't afraid to have opinions and broadcast them. This goes beyond the usual pick hits (though that's here too) to things like (in #68) the political career of Lee Atwater and the relationship between performer and fan as exemplified by John Cougar Mellencamp's career. (S-8t)

★★★★★

ROCKFAX Vol. 3 #6 ($10/12 issues from B&M Advertising, 28 Talman St., Norwich, CT 06360): This is a free music tabloid (free in Norwich, anyhow) that isn't half bad. They cover mostly bands with the taste of success in their mouths, but not yet swallowed: Silos, Loki, Volcano Suns, New Model Army. Sensible stories, a decent mail section, and a smattering of national rock news round out the picture. (T-32t)

★★★★★

ROCKHEAD Vol. 17 #1 ($12/4 issues from Utopian Technology, 2601 McAllister St., San Francisco, CA 94118): A music tabloid "for rockers with brains", put out by some of the folks from the legendary Kerista commune. Inside they mix a fascination with Joan Jett with commentary on both contemporary music and utopian communal politics. Lots of exciting ways to connect, especially if you're into a high-tough high-tech vision of the future. (T-36t)

★★★★★

ROCK REVIEW Vol. 2 #13 ($1 (?) from 1343 4th St., Santa Monica, CA 90401): One of the battling metal- and club-oriented freebie music papers in the LA area. A good place to get some names dropped on you as you read about pretty boys with long hair. At least the club schedules look useful. This issue includes features on Lypswitchm Roxx Gang, Extreme and other bands I've never run across before. (T-60t)

★★★★★

THE ROGUE RAVEN #39 (The Usual from Frank Denton, 14654 - 8th Ave., Seattle, WA 98166): This is Frank's personalzine, associated with a batch of folks in science fiction fandom but not really about SF. About the closest he gets is mention of books read. Other topics include walking and land use in England, the events in China, and a recent trip to the Seattle Symphony. (S-10)

★★★★★

THE ROOSEVELT ARMAGEDDON #11 (Free for stamps from Seth Tisue, PO Box 1083, Wheaton, IL 60189): The final issue of this high school underground, but they still have plenty of back issues left, so write now. The RA is a mix of new stuff and retrospective reprints, in-jokes and familiar marginals (Paul Weinman, Ace Backwords), humor and (occasional) seriousness. No heavy political agenda, just a batch of students having a good time and expressing themselves. (S-12t)

★★★★★

ROSES 3/18/89 and **ROSE NOTES** Vol. 1 #1 (On Request from PO Box 52, Bayside, NY 11361): Two periodicals inspired by Veronica Lueken, "the seer of Bayside", who has been transmitting messages from the Virgin Mary for almost two decades now. ROSES contains the actual texts, with suitable notes about fulfilled prophecies; ROSE NOTES is about miraculous cures, testimonials, the people who work for Our Lady of the Roses Shrine, and so on. (S-4t)

★★★★★

ROX Vol. 1 #12 ($15/yr from PO Box 471, Reistertown, MD 21136-0471): A Baltimore area music tabloid, this one reminds me a lot of THE NOTE, which is doing much the same thing in Kansas. They write mainly of local artists, with this issue including New Model Army, Mother Love Bone, One by One, and more. There's also a technique column and local club schedules and classified ads. (T-32t)

★★★★★

THE RUBBER FANZINE Vol. 4 #2 ($1.70 from Steven Bryan Bieler, 7307 6th Ave. NW, Seattle, WA 98117): This journal of rubber stamp art will be under new management (Steven's) just about as this FF comes out. I expect it will continue to be the same madcap place that founding editor Rudi Rubberoid created. Weird science, abusive people, eerie pictures and just plain art grace every page, along with letters and articles on obscure rubber stamp stuff. (S-22)

★★★★★

RUBBER PUPPY #3 (75¢ from 2309-D Pruett, Austin, TX 78703-4349): The editor also accepts mint baseball cards in trade for this mix of cartoons, stories, scrawls and clippings. I especially liked the table listing "How YOU can expect to be treated by the cops" depending on what you've done and your apparent socio-economic status. A work of deranged art. (D-24t)

★★★★★

RURAL NETWORK ADVOCATE #65-67 ($10/yr from Lois Kohles, Rt. 2, Gays Mills, WI 54631): A network of folks sharing their thoughts on living away from the cities. Some of these people are *very* serious about being rural: #65 includes Jon Nierenberg's tale of traveling the Iditarod Trail by dogsled. Many members of the network are also interested in hooking up with like-minded others to share the future. (S-8)

★★★★★

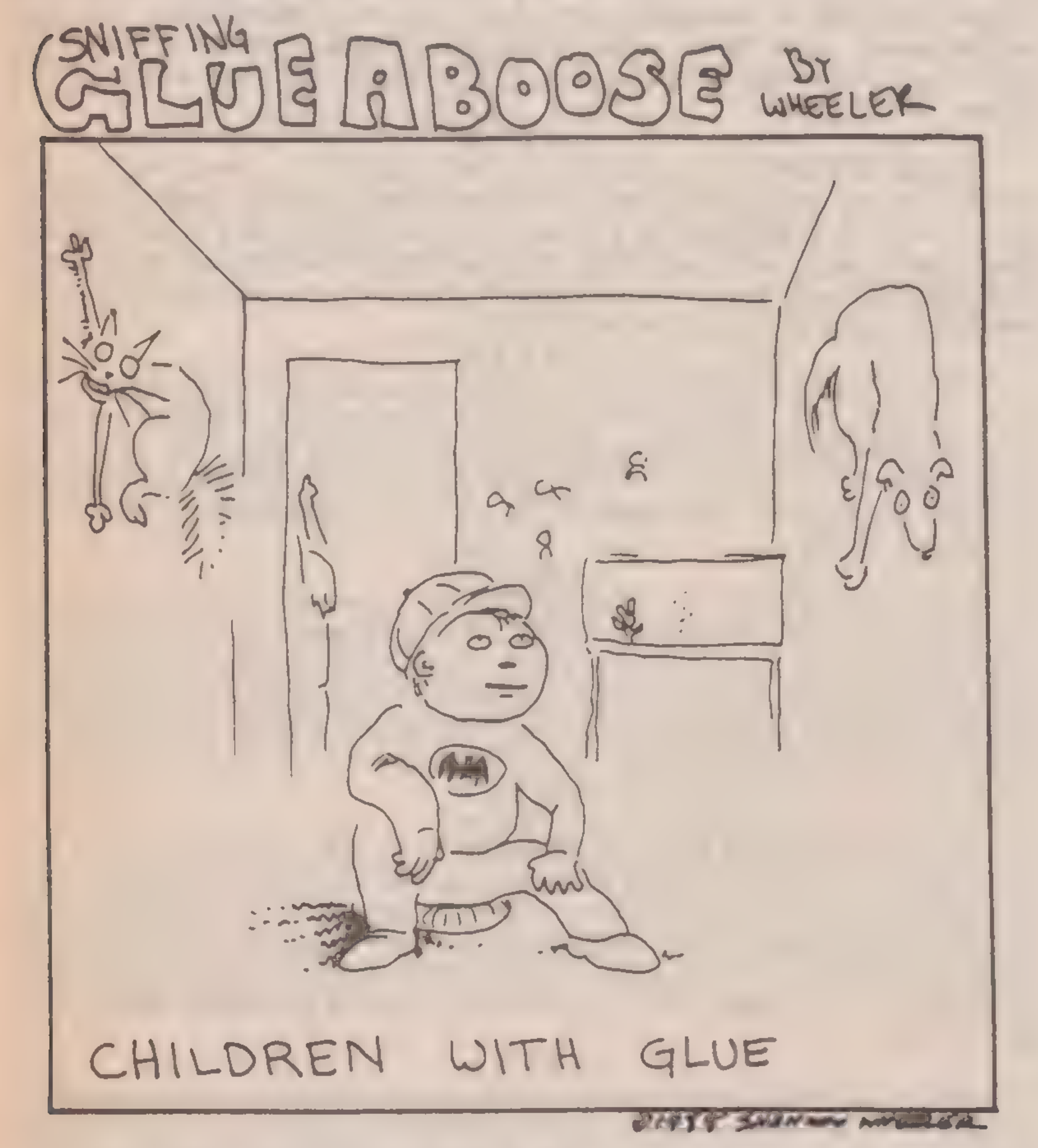
THE SACRED COW S.I.G. NEWSLETTER May/June-July/Aug. 1989 ($10/6 issues from Barbara Koksal, 3392 Clemens Dr., St. Charles, MO 63301): A Mensa Special Interest Group publication for the airing of unpopular opinions. They allow subscribers to submit anything that doesn't violate federal statutes for discussion. Current topics include the Holocaust, American support to Israel, eugenics, and feminism. Lots of unpopular positions here. (D-29r)

* * * * *

SACRED EARTH NEWS Summer 1989 (Donation from 1404 Gale Ln., Nashville, TN 37212): An eclectic newspaper based on Native American spiritual practices but gradually branching out to include other indigenous traditions. They've grown bigger & better looking in recent issues, and are now a good source of nation and worldwide news bits from native communities. Better yet, they hold out arms of welcome to those wishing to escape the mainstream society in search of alternatives. (T-16t)

* * * * *

SAMISDAT #213-215 ($20 gets you the next 500 pages put out by Merritt Clifton, PO Box 129, Richford, VT 05476): You might not think that crotchety poetry reviews, sports, and environmentalism go together — but that would just mean you don't read this wonderful zine. Merritt is one of the gems of the small press, an indefatigable reviewer (though for his own sanity he no longer reads everything) and publisher of much good poetry in his own zine as well as numerous chapbooks. (D-48)



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SANDHILLS LIBERTARIAN GAZETTE July 1989 ($1 (?) from Lexington County Libertarian Party, PO Box 2297, West Columbia, SC 29171): So far this is the only county-level Libertarian newsletter I receive — a good thing, too, since if every county did them they'd fill a volume of FF all their own. Anyhow, this one has the predictable slams at government waste, inefficiency & lack of ethics, plus a bit of political news. In this issue John Harllee makes some suggestions for libertarian children's books. (S-4r)

* * * * *

SATORI Spring-Summer 1989 ($2 from Hands Off The Press, PO Box 318, Tivoli, NY 12583): A relatively diverse arts magazine with a format that leaves room for breath. The contents of the Spring issue range from an interview with filmmaker Peter Hutton to oblique poetry from Bryan McHugh. I was most taken by Mikhail Horowitz's "Fightin' Philosophers" collages, which combine boxing with ontology. Lydel Sims's story "The Talk Show That Changed The World" in the summer issue is a chilling look at the way our government of the people, by the media, for the rich is going. (S-18t)

* * * * *

SCATALOGICA Book 1 ($2 (?) from Daniel A. Ryan, 6101 E. Bellevue St. #D240, Tucson, AZ 85712): Actually, the title might be "Fear of Farting", but it's not worth the bother to find out, as there's no reason to order this unless you're still in Junior High and get off on screeds about farting, ugly pussies, enemas, and so on. Mildly dirty talking combined with nasty slurs aimed at just about everyone by writers with no discernable talent. (S-36)

* * * * *

SCAVENGER'S NEWSLETTER #63-65 ($1.50 from Janet Fox, 519 Ellinwood, Osage City, KS 66523-1329): Still the best source around for small press market news, concentrating on SF, fantasy, horror and associated genres. Listings of who's buying and who's not, notes on reporting times, reviews of recent items, and a lively letter column devoted to the problems of small press writers *and* editors make this a winner. (D-30r)

* * * * *

THE SCENE Vol. 13 #7 ($1 (?) from 241 Clinton Ave., Albany, NY 12210): A newspaper directed at Albany's minority, primarily black, community. This issue leads off with the latest round of police invasion of civil liberties in the name of the war on drugs; among other things, the Albany cops were caught searching all Blacks and Hispanics who came into town on the bus. There's also local arts news and notes on various assistance projects. (T-16t)

* * * * *

SCHISM #22 (25¢ & SASE from Janet Janet, PO Box 170715, San Francisco, CA 94117): A mini with a political statement to make, in this issue "Legal Abortion: A Woman's Right". There's a coat hanger on the front cover, some female genitalia drawings inside, and the caption, "A Womb of my Own". Short and blunt. (M-8)

* * * * *

SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY FORUM Vol. 1 #1 ($3/6 issues from PO Box 138, Woodbury, NY 11797-0138): A new reviewzine for the SF field. It starts out with promise, drawing Raymond Gallun, Orson Scott Card and Jacqueline Lichtenberg, among others, as writers. (Gallun even contributes a section of his literary autobiography). Mainly short reviews, plus a few convention listings and announcements of forthcoming books — reminds me a bit of DROOD REVIEW for a different field. (S-40t)

* * * * *

SCIENCE FICTION GUIDE #14 ($1 from 594 Broadway #1208, New York, NY 10012): SF criticism of the "Emperor has no clothes!" variety. Editor Charles Platt and his cronies point out the influence of Robert Heinlein on Charles Manson, discuss the putative death of the genre, condemn lily-livered fantasists, and otherwise enjoy stirring up hornets' nests. I enjoy it, but then I'm familiar with the genre, and enjoy seeing the wounded egos fight back in the letter column. (D-19t)

* * * * *

SCORE #10 ($10/2 issues from Crag Hill, 491 Mandana Blvd. #3, Oakland, CA 94610): An imposing and important visual poetry compendium. This issue consists of works from Australia, Portugal, the USSR (interesting to see Cyrillic used as an artistic building block) and Mexico, plus a randomizing cover with spinners riveted on. The work is mainly challenging, though patient puzzling reveals that visual poetry is to some extent a universal language. (S-44t)

* * * * *

SCORE REVIEW #13-14 and **SCORE SHEET** #22-23 ($1/4 issues from 491 Mandana Blvd. #3, Oakland, CA 94610): SCORE REVIEW is a review of the experimental arts scene, from concrete poetry on out. #13 contains Harry Polkinhorn's views on Stephen-Paul Martin's work THE FLOOD; #14 has a couple of anonymous reviews. For a look at some works in the genre, check out SCORE SHEET available from the same address for the same price. #23, for example, contains some self-explaining word pictures. (S-2)

* * * * *

SCREAMER July 1989 ($2 from 205 S. Broadway #922, Los Angeles, CA 90012): "So. Cal.'s Music Mag" claims "120,000 hard rockin' readers". Could be, Wrapped in a color cover, this is for the local headbangers, with lots of pretty boys in the bands. Features in this issue include Kix, Great White, Mother Love Bone, and Faster Pussycat. Lots of ads & club schedules too. (T-60t)

* * * * *

THE SECOND STONE #4-5 ($2.25 from PO Box 8340, New Orleans, LA 70182): A tabloid paper for Christian homosexuals. They offer quiet support, letting people know that not all ordained Christians condemn homosexuality out of hand. They also provide plenty of news from ministries nationwide helping out in this sensitive area. (T-12t)

* * * * *

SECULAR HUMANIST TENDENCIES #2 ($1 & 45¢ postage from Ed Huyck, 16389 Gladiola Ave., Rosemount, MN 55068): A mix of music and comics coverage, with a strip by Ed and one by Matt Feazell included. On the musical side we have Dissent and Blind Approach, among others. There's also bits of art and poetry and in fact all sorts of stuff that caught the editor's eye. (D-32r)

* * * * *

THE SEDITIONIST #9-11 (75¢ from Incendiary Publications, PO Box 210095, San Francisco, CA 94121-0095): An anarchist monthly which is growing into a source of useful if brief news items from around their world. #9 contains the first update on the San Francisco gathering that I'd seen in months from anyone. It also contains further debate on the abolition of work as opposed to their own workerist ideology. #11 has a fair amount of international grassroots union news. (S-8r)

* * * * *

SELON MOUVEMENT #15-18 (18fr. from Xavier Bouyges, 16 rue de la Pinsonniere, 77680 Roissy en Brie, FRANCE): An arty publication of full-page harsh graphics with fragments of text worked into them (in French, of course). There's a bit of an explanatory manifesto tacked on at the end of #15. #18 is all faces, in a heavy and nearly opaque wide-pen style. Somewhere around the fringes of mail art. (A4-20)

* * * * *

SENIOR CITIZEN NEWS & VIEWS Vol. 4 #1-2 ($12/12 issues from PO Box 1253, Peoria, IL 61654): A monthly tabloid focused on the concerns of older people. While some features (like the listing of activities) are specific to mid-Illinois, others have wider appeal. For example, in #1 they discuss touring Rome for seniors, and in #2 there's news on possible modifications to the new catastrophic care tax surcharge. Every issue features columns of medical, legal and financial advice as well. (T-20t)

★★★★★

SENSATIONS #3 ($10/2 issues from David Messineo [Note "for SENSATIONS" on checks], 2 Radio Ave. #A5, Secaucus, NJ 07094): This literary zine features a hologram on the cover (a mass-produced bit of coral inserted in a beach scene) and a mix of fiction and stories inside. Most of it didn't do a whole lot for me, but Edward Condon's "Socks and Violins" is a nice little love story with a completely unexpected twist at the end. (S-38t)

★★★★★

THE $ENSIBLE SOUND #39 ($5.50 from 403 Darwin Dr., Snyder, NY 14226): This is a magazine of equipment reviews for the serious audiophile. How serious? Well, they shouldn't run screaming from the room at the thought of $800 cartridges or $1000 speakers. If you're the sort of person who might spend $5000 for a stereo system, but still wants to get bargains, you should get this packed collection of technically astute product reviews. (D-66t)

★★★★★

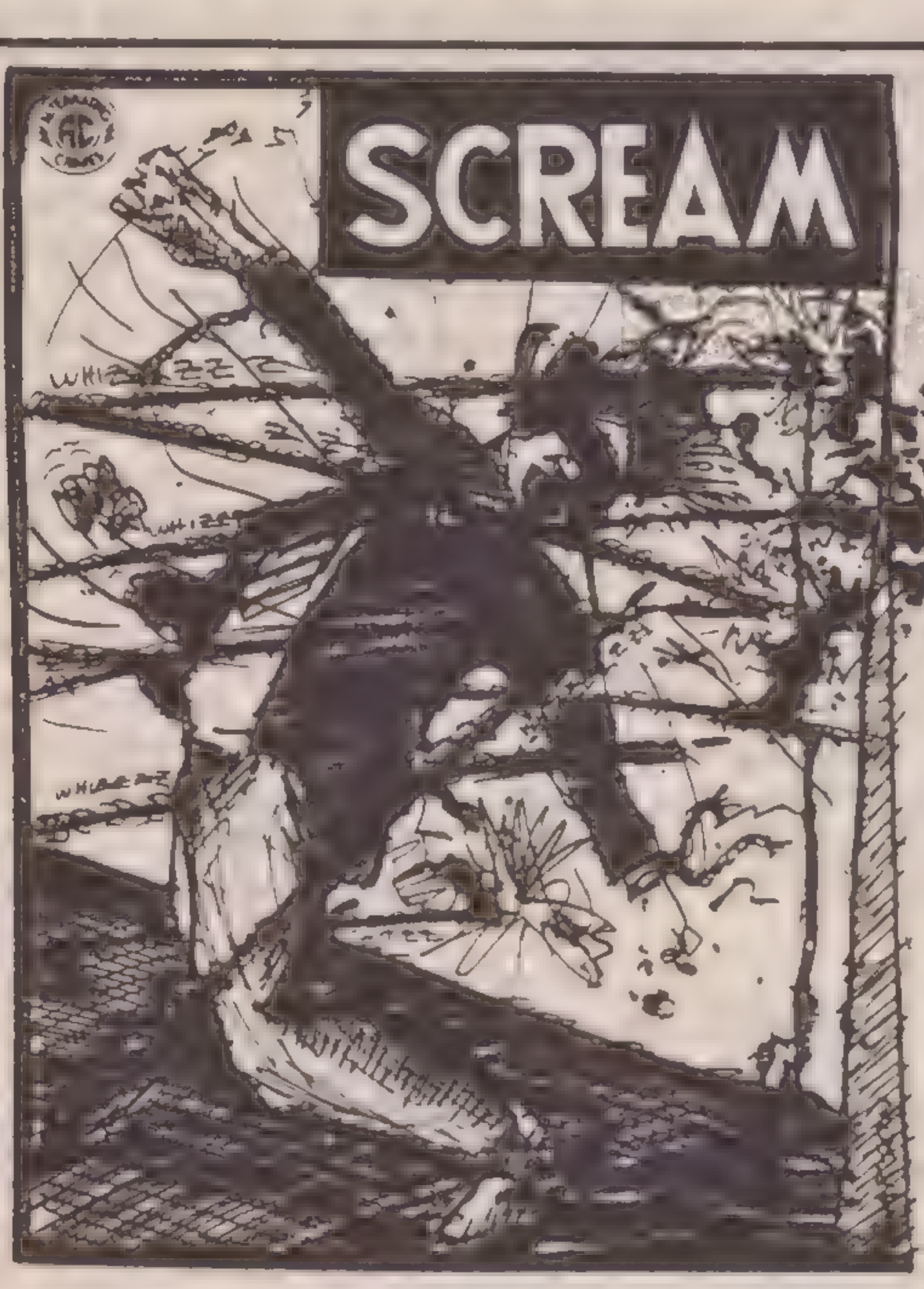
SENSORIA FROM CENSORIUM ($5 from 78 Woodycrest #2, Toronto, ONT M4J 3A7, CANADA): A graphically striking collection of underground culture. There's all manner of photocopy art, cassette culture, networking and experimental music here. There's also an iron-on patch so you can make your own confusing t-shirt and other little touches. Well-done and a work of art as well as about art. (S-72)

★★★★★

SERENDIPITY #3 ($2 from 4295 Silver Lake Rd., Pinson, AL 35126-3307): A zine for the media fan, as they are called in science fiction circles. The two major features here are on Batman (the history of the comic and the prospects for the movie), with the Man From UNCLE also coming in for attention. They print short fiction and poetry too, though they promise to concentrate more on TV in the future. (D-48t)

★★★★★

SEX & DRUGS #2 (SASE from 518 S. 5th St. #23, Philadelphia, PA 19147): An uneasy journal of critique on the frontier of social mutation. There are references to Psychic TV, Monty Cantsin, and Missing Foundation here, but no real critique, as the editors apparently drew back from publishing what they felt was poor work. Instead, collaged images, source documents and a few hints remain to entrance the unwary. (D-12r)



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★★★★★

THE SF CONVENTION REGISTER Summer 1989 ($1.50 & 45¢ SASE from Erwin S. Strauss, PO Box 3343, Fairfax, VA 22038): The most exhaustive listing of science fiction conventions around. Hundreds of listings, with basic contact info, dates, prices and guest of honor names for each, together with extensive cross-references. If you can afford it you can party every weekend in a different city. (S-18r)

★★★★★

THE SHADOW #2-3 (Donation from PO Box 20298, New York, NY 10009): A paper for the rebellious squatters and other non-Yuppies of the Lower East Side. #2 documents the city's demolition of a building being homesteaded, has more on the Tompkins Square Riot, and generally rages against the folks in power on behalf of the homeless and underclass. #3 has lots more news on housings and evictions, plus reports from this May's round of smoke-ins. (T-16)

★★★★★

SHARK TACTICS #6 (1 IRC (?) from Mike Cobley, 18 Athole Gardens, Hillhead, Glasgow G12 9BA, SCOTLAND): An occasional sheet assessing and lambasting the state of British science fiction. This issue contains a plea to reject cyberpunk as a colonial upstart genre (this *may* be tongue in cheek), a panning of W.T. Quick's writing ability, and thoughts on the coming shakeout in the SF book marketplace. (A4-2r)

★★★★★

SHEET METAL #6 ($2.50 from Festering Publications, 2235 France Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55416): Heavy metal coverage that doesn't swoon over every bit of music featuring a few loud guitars; this zine maintains some critical integrity and isn't afraid to say nasty things about crummy bands. On the other hand, they also find a batch of folks worth talking to, including Realm, Ace Frehley and Sonic Youth, plus feature a few pages of reviews and a spread devoted solely to demos. (S-34t)

★★★★★

THE SHOCK REVIEW #7 ($1 from Tom Stockman, 1435 Sproule, St. Louis, MO 63139): Another horror and sleaze film zine. This one takes the prize for being the most nauseatingly sexist of the bunch; anyone with feminist sensibilities should stay far, far away. If you can handle it, Tom covers the recent Fangoria weekend of horror, hands out various poor-taste awards to last year's flicks, and reviews things like John Holmes's last movie. This issue also features notes on collectible lunchboxes. (S-10)

★★★★★

SHORT FUSE #39 ($1 from Holden, PO Box 90436, Santa Barbara, CA 93190-0436): A collection of unfettered and unedited creativity which spans the media from drawings through poetry to bits of prose. Holden himself tends towards rather dreamlike poems, but there's room for both traditionalism and experimentalism here. A sort of childlike delight seems shot through most of the pieces contributed. (S-22)

★★★★★

SHOTS #14-15 ($2 from 304 S. 4th St., Danville, KY 40422): This may well be the friendliest photography magazine in existence. #14 is devoted largely to panoramic photography, large slices of landscape and artifact, with thoughts from the photographers. Cheerful commentary abounds, and even photographic theory seems comprehensible here. I like this one, if you couldn't tell. #15 has a "Members Only" theme, with photos from 100+ subscribers and their ideas on what they're up to. (T-40)

★★★★★

SICK TEEN #15 1/2 (24¢ from PO Box 918, Green Bay, WI 54305): Back after a long absence is this wild and wooly punk zine, with the outrageous music coverage and jampacked microprint collage layout that spawned a host of imitators. Besides the usual beer-soaked ramblings, this issue has a Mojo Nixon interview and the Rev. Norb's tips on becoming a sex-god. (D-16r)

★★★★★

SIGHTS & SOUNDS Vol. 2 #3-6 ($10/yr from PO Box 346, Springfield, MO 65801): This local entertainment tabloid gets points for good use of color & for making their price obvious. Then they lose a few for the propensity to feature lots more photos of cute women than cute me. But overall, they do a decent job of covering local music and restaurants, as well as including a few innovative features like golf lessons in every issue. (T-24t)

★★★★★

SIMPLE COOKING, Spring 1989 ($16/4 issues from John Thorne, PO Box 58, Castine, ME 04421): No sneaky titles here; this really is about John's adventures in cooking, and most of the things he does are pretty simple (though also elegant). This issue ranges from the making of soup stock (a lost art) to hazelnut praline butter cookies. There's also a cookbook review section. Mouthwatering. (S-12t)

★★★★★

SIN Summer 1989 ($1 from Chris Slaughter, 1884 Campground Rd., Bristol, VA 24201): This looks like a music zine — the confused punk look — but in fact it's mostly art. Even that is strange, with pointless comics and mad sketches of social lives run amuck. Ace Backwords is prominently featured, and there are short interviews with a couple of bands I've never heard of. Very idiosyncratic. (D-20r)

★★★★★

SIN Vol. 1 #2 ("Available for trade and stamps, no money" from PO Box 1272, Cambridge, MA 02142-1272): A zine of arty music or musical art or something. Lots of hand-coloring throughout (my copy even came wrapped in some fiendishly spraypainted mylar), and little stickers that fall out when you open it make it a multimedia experience. Inside they talk to Green Magnet School and the US Steel Cello Ensemble and display an unhealthy fascination with broccoli soup. (D-32t)

★★★★★

SINGIN' DOSE ANTI PSYCHOTIC BLUES #2-3 ($1.50 or a pair of women's shoes from 4417 18th Ave. #166, Brooklyn, NY 11204): This is mostly a collection of clippings from the mass media, with occasional commentary from Frank. The main subject is guns, senseless slayings, police chases, and other gratuitous violence, although women's shoes comes in a close second. Not exactly mainstream or balanced, to say the least. Definitely not sweetness and light stuff. (S-50)

★★★★★

SINGULARITY #1 ($1.50 from R. Evans, 89 Mass. Ave. #199, Boston, MA 02115): A new entry in the area of future zines — a growing wave of things concerned with the wonders of the universe, both technological and biological. The strongest piece in this issue is Ron's own account of madness, a strange place to visit indeed. Other bits include weird erotica, the story of sharerights, and proposed changes to the body to make it bigger, better, faster, stronger. A voice of hope and speculation amidst the confusion. (S-17t)

★★★★★

SINSEMILLA TIPS Vol. 8 #3 ($5 from PO Box 90, Corvallis, OR 97339): The "Domestic Marijuana Journal" is still going strong despite a recent drop in ads thanks to the new drug paranoia. If you want to grow dope indoors or out, with sophisticated systems or just a shovel, this is the place to go for info. There's still a few freedom-loving hydroponic companies that advertise here, as well as lots of how-to articles and legal news. (S-96t)

★★★★★

SIPAPU #37 ($4 from Route 1, Box 216, Winters, CA 95694): The chief feature of this zine for socially-responsible librarians is a tour diary (unsigned, but presumably by editor Noel Peattie) of a librarians' trip to China; it tells us rather more about the society than the libraries there. This is followed by an eclectic selection of material from their mailbag, new poets, social change magazines born and died, and reports on a few professional meetings of note. (S-23t)

★★★★★

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THE ART OF FINE PHOTOGRAPHY

SIR REALIST #3 ($12/4 issues from PO Box 862, Athens, OH 45701): A review and digest of the alternative press that's growing rapidly, with a mix of excerpts from other publications and original articles. This issue includes stuff on Leonard Peltier, the war in Central America, and the Rushdie affair, among others. There are also music, magazine and book reviews and a page of mail art announcements. (D-48r)

★★★★★

SKATEZINES

These are zines about skateboarding, for the most part, which has become a popular sport in certain sectors of the indie music world. Hence they often include music coverage along with photos of young men (mostly) flying through the air in strange contortions.

•**CONTROL ZEEN** #4 (50¢ from Ret Taylor, 4116 Royalview Rd., Knoxville, TN 37921): A skatezine with clearer photos and a wider range of stunts than most of the genre. Indeed, nearly the entire zine is photos, 3 or so to the page, of a batch of different skaters. Pretty enthusiastic stuff. (D-20)

•**FIVE-O** #4 (from 100 Stoneygate, Carlisle, MA 01741): The editor writes "Anybody wants a zine, they have to send *stuff*. You know, photos, other zines, photocopies, art, etc. No money (unless big), no freebies". This one is all pictures, but it makes exceptionally good use of the limits of the photocopy medium, turning them into features through a variety of processing techniques. Best example of the art of printing interesting photos that I've seen. (D-20)

•**HABIT ZINE** #2 (50¢ from 145 Linden Ln., Princeton, NJ 08540): A skatezine that includes a fair chunk of writing alongside the photos. Many of the photos don't come out too well, but the words do, reviewing skateboards as well as music. Could use some polish but a good effort for a second issue. (HL-24)

•**LOCAL ZINE** #2-3 (50¢ from 3579 Via La Primavera, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360): Not too many photos in this skatezine, but there's a wide variety of other stuff, starting with coverage of local political actions to restrict the sport. They also feature skate comics and horoscopes, notes on neat places to skate in southern California, and a look at the latest Suicidal Tendencies album in #2. (D-20)

•**RANDOM THOUGHTS** ($1 (?) from Kurt Zapata, c/o Genentech, 460 Point San Bruno Blvd., South San Francisco, CA 94080): I put this here with some trepidation — although Kurt does have several skate articles (including one on proper etiquette for skating in bad areas), he also writes of other things. There's an essay, for example, about favorite beers, and one about the futility of voting. (D-12t)

•**ROBZINE** #11-12 (Free from Dancing Fish Press, 2-381 Roncesvalles Ave., Toronto, ONT M6R 2M8, CANADA): "Send a buck or two if you please". This one has snowboard pix as well as skateboard ones, although it is only marginally a skatezine. Lots of other classy photos, strange bits of poetry and thought, and Rob's crazy handwriting combine to make this a most unsettling experience. (D-28)

•**SHREDDING MATERIAL** #3 ($1 from 2515 Bidle Rd., Middletown, MD 21769): Light printing makes the photos a bit dim, but they're still pretty clear in this skatezine. This is the only place I've seen construction tips for ramps, which is a nice touch. Musically, they interview Voodoo Love Gods. (D-24)

•**SKATE MUTIES FROM THE 5TH DIMENSION** #9 ($2 via air from 6 Dean Lane, Southville, Bristol BS3 1DF, ENGLAND, or order from Blacklist): A confusing zine of music and skating with a layout reminiscent of SICK TEEN. There's a lot crammed in here, much of it apparently not serious, including the wonderfully offensive Gang Green "interview". Will keep you puzzling for hours and bring anti-social impulses to the fore. (A5-32r)

★★★★★

SKULL SESSION #9 ($1 from Brad Mitchell, 7340 Sills Rd., Mississauga, ONT, L4T 2K1, CANADA): It's nice to see a punk music zine where Canadian politics gets discussed, though what with free trade and all they're keeping a close eye on us too. And the "Poser & Hobbes" cartoons are hilarious, despite being sexist and probably a copyright violation to boot. Most of the music content is mail interviews, including 2-Car Family, Kinetic Dissent, and Bazooka Joe. (S-32)

★★★★★

SLAUGHTER HOUSE #1-2 (Free from Dave Simmons Jr., 21370 Pine Ridge Ave., Apple Valley, CA 92307): A Christian music zine (the title refers to Rom. 8:36) with quite a bit of good-natured preaching between the reviews. The Lead are featured in #1, while Vengeance pops up in #2. Also lots of comics and collage stuff. (S-11)

★★★★★

SLIMETIME #26-27 (50¢ from Steve Puchalski, 1108 E. Genesee St. #103, Syracuse, NY 13210): These folks really seem to *enjoy* their trashy movies, and I guess it's easy to understand why. Who could resist enjoying such gems as "Teenagers From Outer Space" or "Twice Dead" (both in #26)? #27 leads off with "Pigs!", one of the few of these I've actually seen. All varieties of sleaze, B- and exploitation movies show up here, from kung fu to bikers to Japanese monsters. (S-8)

★★★★★

SLINGSHOT #26-28 (Donation from PO Box 4157, Berkeley, CA 94704): Berkeley is heating up again, and this anarchist zine is right there in the kitchen. In response to the UC-Berkeley Long Range Development Plan the activists in town are getting more active, and that's here along with other struggles from around the world. #28 contains much news on the recent riot on Telegraph Avenue — essential reading for anyone questioning the major media accounts. (S-20t)

★★★★★

SLOB #3 ($1.65 from Justin Johnson, 23 W. Galer #200, Seattle, WA 98119): This hardcore music zine is mostly interviews, though Justin works a few record reviews in at the end. One nice feature is the lyrics printed with each interview, helping give an idea of the bands' thrust. #3 includes Fugazi, McRad, Underdog and more. (S-24)

★★★★★

SMALL PRESS REVIEW Vol. 21 #4-6 ($18/12 issues from Dustbooks, PO Box 100, Paradise, CA 95967): An old and reliable source for small press reviews, just as its title suggests. Besides publishing a few dozen reviews and notices, they track the doings of the literary small press, and collect it all in book form on a regular basis. Columns from Laurel Speer and Merritt Clifton make entertaining reading as well. #6 has a guest editorial from Richard Kostelanetz, in which he attempts to step back and take a new look at the grants process. (S-16t)

★★★★★

SOCIALIST ACTION Vol. 7 #5 ($4/6 months from 3435 Army St. #308, San Francisco, CA 94110): A socialist tabloid with a masthead that apes the Polish Solidarity logo. Get past the labor and human rights news in the front — lots of Eastern Airlines and abortion rights in this issue — and eventually you find they're hardcore Trotskyites. This gives them a field day discussing international relations, crowing about the fall of Stalin from the Soviet firmament. (T-20t)

★★★★★

SOCIAL MUTANTS #1 ($1.50 from Sid Mitzlaff, Rt. 1 Box 245, Honey Creek, IA 51542): A socially-responsible heavy metal music zine — which sounds like an odd combination, but it works. On the one hand, there are interviews with Dark Angel, Flesh and Blood and other bands; on the other, bits on Amnesty International, the Iowa Peace Institute, and other peace groups. Interesting proof that not all headbangers are reactionaries. (D-44r)

★★★★★

SOCIAL VOMIT #1 (50¢ from Mike Canich, PO Box 31, Romeo, MI 48065): Mostly Mike's own art, with a bit of ranting to introduce it. The influences are strongly punk and underground, with lots of skulls and strange appendages and musical references. There's also some social responsibility of a twisted sort, as in the back cover for "National 'Kill-the-Klan' Month". (S-20)

★★★★★

SODOMY #1 (75¢ from Doug Chapel Comics, 38 Reservoir, Holden, MA 01520): A collection of collages relying heavily on words from various headlines, plus a bit of comic art. This is one of those things that probably means a lot more to its creators than its readers. At least, I hope it does. (D-12)

★★★★★

SOLD OUT #7 ($2 from PO Box 7071, Windsor, ONT, N9C 3Y6, CANADA): Music coverage that gets into things besides the bands. For example, this issue includes a super interview with Ian MacKaye that's mostly about Dischord Records rather than Minor Threat. XXX's Mike Gitter also grabs a few pages. Then there's a slick centerfold poster, a pile of music reviews , Kingface, 7 Seconds, and more. Pretty slick looking but friendly inside. (S-36t)

★★★★★

SOLIDARITY REMINDER June 1989 (SASE from WSA, PO Box 8436, Knoxville, TN 37996): A single sheet from the Knoxville affiliate of the Workers' Solidarity Alliance, a group of anarcho-syndicalists. There's some labor news, international and local here, as well as one upcoming event and an offer of free pamphlets. Not a lot of content, actually. (L-1)

★★★★★

SOL RISING #3 ($20/yr from Friends of the Spaced Out Library, 40 St. George St., Toronto, ONT, M5S 2E4, CANADA): The Spaced Out Library is the largest science fiction & fantasy collection maintained by a public library in North America, and this is their twice-yearly newsletter. Besides reporting on library events and business, there are features of interest to fandom more generally: a list of all Canadian SF published in 1988 and an interview with John Millard in this issue. (S-16t)

★★★★★

SOMEPLACE LIKE EARTH #3 ($1 & 2 stamps from Chris Caggiano, 1737 Grove St. #1, Ridgewood, NY 11385): A punk-looking zine of information about the state of our world — mostly downbeat political stuff. The bulk of this, from Contragate to rainforest destruction, is reprinted from mainstream source — unfortunately without any attribution, which makes it less useful as a research tool. (D-24r)

★★★★★

SONGTALK Summer 1989 ($60/yr from NAS, 6381 Hollywood Blvd. #780, Hollywood, CA 90028): The tabloid of the National Academy of Songwriters. Not surprisingly it is mostly made up of interviews with folks who write songs, from Van Dyke Parks to Holly Near to Kim Carnes to Madonna. There's also articles on some outstanding writers (Phil Ochs this time around) and industry news. (T-40t)

★★★★★

SONIC LIFE March 1989 (£11/yr from Ali, 429 Harrow Rd, London W10 4RE, UK): The newsletter from the UK office of Blast First records, containing much confusing musical obscurity. This issue came with a hard vinyl EP promo, including rare Big Stick and Dinosaur Jr. stuff. Inside we find Lydia Lunch, someone's illustrated tour diary, Steve Albini on Killdozer, and other strange and wonderful things. (A4-30r)

★★★★★

SOUND & FURY #11 ($2 from James Wallis, 8, College Gardens, London N18 2XR, ENGLAND): It took a while to decide whether to review this here or as an artwork. The subtitle here is "The Official All-Inclusive Interactive Self-Assembly Personal Fanzine Kit". Inside James has provided paper, a pen, cover stock, transfer letterng, staples and, in case you need inspiration, a packet of powdery white mystery substance — as well as instructions on creating a fanzine from these ingredients. A strictly limited edition of 20, so unless you write darned quickly you'd better just send a letter of inquiry. (A5-??)

★★★★★

SOUND CHOICE #11 ($3 from PO Box 1251, Ojai, CA 93023): Wide-ranging alternative music coverage which is now separating their masses of reviews by genre (from "Avant-Garde" to "Spoken Word") for those of you who like some structure. #11 also has an interesting Greg Ginn interview, Andrew White on the fate of jazz in the black community, and plenty of letters from the alternative music network. Recommended. (S-94t)

★★★★★

SOUND SEEN #9 ($1 from Amy Flammang & Melanie Amin, 709 W. Illinois, Urbana, IL 61801): Mostly music stuff featuring mostly on local or nearby bands. #9 includes Little Engine, Bad Flannel, and Big Hello, plus a quiz to determine one's level of coolness (pretty specific to those on the Urbana campus, though). Nice layouts and page drawings too — lots of care here. (D-24t)

★★★★★

SOUNDS OF SUBURBIA #4 (75¢ from Rachel, PO Box 7472, Wilton, CT 06897): A combination of punk culture and music. The social topics in this issue include the STOP-GRO campaign for free speech in New York and protests against dissection in high schools. The music is record and live reviews (no interviews) plus, for some reason, a Tulsa scene report. (S-22)

★★★★★

SOURCES #13 ($10/6 issues from NICE, Inc., PO Box 1076, Columbia, MD 21044): "A Visionary Magazine Supporting Awareness, Growth, and Change in Our Global Family" — in other words, a sort of New Age networking magazine. Besides an extensive calendar of events and listing of services in the DC and surrounding ares, they feature plenty of short

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columns. Topics include astrology, channeling, Wicca, herbalism, and much more, plus short reviews. (S-48t)

★★★★★

SOUS LA MANTEAU edition speciale ($10 from CP 1203, Succ. Place d'Armes, Montreal, QUE, H2Y 3K2, CANADA): A single-issue large-format tabloid which is at the intersection of art, politics, and poetry. Mainly in French, though with a few English contributions and contacts all over the place, it seems most concerned with painting a true but not necessarily literal picture of how cruddy things are. The art of resistance, both to the system and the Arts. (T-60t)

★★★★★

SOUTHERN COALITION REPORT ON JAILS & PRISON Vol. 16 #2 ($20/4 issues from PO Box 120044, Nashville, TN 37212): A newsletter from a group that doesn't only report on prison conditions but tries to do something about them. This issue is focused pretty much exclusively on the death penalty, and why it is a bad thing. If you've never read any of the serious arguments on the subject, this would be a good place to start. (S-8t)

★★★★★

THE SOUTHERN LIBERTARIAN MESSENGER Vol. XVII #11-Vol. XVIII #1 ($6/12 issues from Rt. 10 Box 52A, Florence, SC 29501): A rather snide look at the government from a major libertarian proponent. John Harllee collects news stories and opinion pieces from all over and uses them to make fun of the managers of the state, by reporting their stupider side. He also inserts bits of his own commentary in the interstices. (S-10t)

★★★★★

SPACE & TIME #76 ($5 from G. Linzner, 138 W. 70th St. #4B, New York, NY 10023-4432): A classic and impressive magazine of short fantasy fiction, with some SF thrown in for good measure. #76 includes works from S.C. Virtes, Danith McPherson, Jeffrey Ford and others. Kurt Heinrich Hyatt's "Sandwomen" is an intriguingly alien tale that reminds me of some of C.J. Cherryh's works. (D-120r)

★★★★★

SPINNING FREE #1-2 ($1 (?) from PO Box 16081, St. Louis Park, MN 55416): "An alternative lifestyle publication" which has grown out of the Grateful Dead community to address a wider range of people. It's a mix of music (with reviews of Cats Laughing and Boiled in Lead in the first issue, for example) and social activism (rainforests and incinerators in #2). Hopeful, happy and potentially a big winner. (S-32t)

★★★★★

SPIRAL SCRATCH #6(£24/6 issues from 122 Lovell Road, Cambridge CB4 2QP, ENGLAND): A magazine for music collectors, though more attuned to New Wave and recent music than the US equivalents like GOLDMINE or DISCOVERIES — the lead story in this issue is a history of the 4AD label. They're also graphically more striking, and include a 3" CD on the cover with 4 tracks including one from the Pixies. There's a visitor's guide to London record shops, some notes for beginning record collectors, and of course lots of ads. (A4-98t)

★★★★★

SPIRITUAL MOTHERING JOURNAL Vol. 8 #4 ($1.50 from PO Box 213, Lyle, WA 98635): I would not have bet on this to be so good or so successful — a support journal for parents rooted (though not ostentatiously so) in the Baha'i faith. And yet it is both good and successful, sharing experiences from birth to adolescence and sincerely being helpful to all comers. I'm impressed. (HL-32t)

★★★★★

THE SPIRITUAL REVOLUTIONARY Vol. 1 #6-7 ($3 from S/R Press, PO Box 60327, Palo Alto, CA 94306-0327): This is a multilogue between Kyle Griffith, author of WAR IN HEAVEN, and his readers. WIH proposed a new explanation for human history and religion, based on channelings from the Invisible College, and it's provoked a good deal of controversy. Besides spiritual matters, Kyle gets into current events; in this issue his guides go out on a limb and denounce cold fusion as completely non-nuclear. Contributors include Colin Wilson and Ivan Stang. (S-20)

★★★★★

THE SPORADICAL #9 ($1 from Libertarian Book Club, 339 Lafayette St. #202, New York, NY 10012): A sort of anarchist apa, with contributions from a batch of folks in New York City. These range from short theoretical pieces to satirical posters (I really enjoyed the ones on animal rights and anarchist process) to posters announcing a bit of rabble-rousing. Also has a contact list for anti-authoritarian groups in the city. (S-26)

★★★★★

SPUN #28-36 ($1 from Doug Chapel Comics, 38 Reservoir St., Holden, MA 01520): This one has a comics format, quick and frequent, though the contents vary immensely: drawings, Manson archives, rants about work, music reviews, whatever. Mostly it's Doug's opinions on the state of the world, and according to him, it isn't a pretty place. He also reviews everything from places he's crashed to proms. (D-16)

★★★★★

THE SPY LYRIC Vol. 2 #3 ($15/yr from PO Box 6306, Nashua, NH 03061-6306): A music tabloid for the New Hampshire area. Christmas, Salem 66, BeBe Buell, Lisa Suckdog — they're all in this issue. There's also some unusual industry news, like the feature on local major lable A&R reps. As always, the cover takes the same overblown tack as your average supermarket tabloid. (T-16t)

★★★★★

STAMP AXE Vol. 5 #1 ($2 from PO Box 109 Stn. C, Montreal QUE, H2L 4J9, CANADA): A classy little mail art publication with colorful rubber stampings on the cover. They publish texts in English and French, notes and reviews of other projects, and original art works. This issue also includes an essay on the dubious future of hardcopy mail and the implications for the field of mail art. (M-40)

★★★★★

STAR ROUTE JOURNAL Vol. 7 #4-6 ($10/12 issues from PO Box 1451, Redway, CA 95560-1451): It's sort of neat to see people continue to grow and think for decades. This paper is the end result of that growth among some rural California hippies, who still care and think and speak their minds. #4 has more on the Soviet hippies, still doing OK in the face of adversity. #5 features an interview with someone who remembers one of the bad sides of the hippie era — a valuable source of oral history. (T-20t)

★★★★★

STAR*TECH Vol. 3 #2-3 ($16.50/yr from PO Box 26599, Tempe, AZ 85285-6599): A magazine for the serious student of astrology. How serious? Well, you have to be willing to read editorial matter about the failures of astrologers to pass statistical tests — and have the mathematical savvy to follow the discussion of the rare cases (like the Gauquelin Mars cycle) that do seem to work. They also track computerized astrology and new systems rather heavily. (S-20t)

★★★★★

THE STATE ADVERSARY Aug.-Dec. 1988 ($2 (?) from Anarchist Alliance of Aotearoa, PO Box 78-104, Grey Lynn, Auckland, NEW ZEALAND): An anarchist networking zine from New Zealand. Much of it consists of letters from anarchists around the country, ranging from pacifists to those who advocate vandalizing unused automobiles. Lots of news on NZ gatherings and zines too. The December issue contains a new version of the Gemstone file, tracing the progress of the conspiracy in Kiwi-land. (A4-12t)

★★★★★

STEPPINGSTONE Vol. 1 #16-18 ($15/yr from Baby Faze Productions, PO Box 4264, San Francisco, CA 94101): A fanzine of music publicity. They print a lot of ads and verbatim press releases as well as a few reviews which sound like slightly rewritten press releases themselves. The whole lacks any spark, though it is jammed with information addresses. Could be useful to zines looking for new labels to beg from. (D-24)

★★★★★

STIRSIL #1 ($1 (?) from University of Tennessee, Box 16492, Knoxville, TN 37916): The title is an acronym for "Something That I Read Standing In Line", if that helps any. This is an attempt to get a literary tabloid going at UT, with a kickoff issue that hopefully will ferment over the summer and produce a monthly in the fall. Short stories, poems, and rather typical college cafeteria horror and opinion make up the opener. (T-12t)

★★★★★

STRAIGHT PRIDE #1 ($1.50 from Brett, 1217 Wilma, Tyler, TX 75701): A fanzine for folks who are into straight edge music. That means punk bands who aren't into substance abuse or (usually) eating meat. The whole zine is made up of interviews: Youth of Today, Free Will, Against the Wall, Up Front, and lots more. An address listing for straight edge bands and zines also appears. (S-24)

★★★★★

STRANGE DAYS #13 (Send "information about Senator Joseph McCarthy" for a copy to X. Sharks DeSpot, 2225 Montego Dr., Lansing, MI 48912): More disjointed writing and photocopies of news stories from the enigmatic DeSpot. This issue starts off with a look at alleged secret war treaties (including one that calls for scheduling a nuke war), does some odd stuff on TV shows, and reprints material on Billy Tipton, Glenn Miller, and the CIA. A neo-paranoid view of the world. (S-14)

★★★★★

STRANGE NOISE #4 ($1 from John Rickman, 8312 Greenock Dr., Richmond, VA 23235): A music zine that concentrates mostly on cassette culture. This issue includes interviews with Undercurrent and Deaf Lions, as well as a couple pages of tape and record reviews. There's also full-page Carrie art and an oddball flowchart of life. (S-16)

★★★★★

STRANGE PLASMA #1 ($3 from Edgewood Press, PO Box 264, Cambridge, MA 02238): Editor Steve Pasechnick has landed short stories by R.A. Lafferty and Gene Wolfe for the first issue of this new science fiction zine, but as far as I'm concerned the real find is Eric Brown's "The Art of Acceptance", a plausible future tale with lots of adventure. The layout is simple but attractive, with nice art including a front cover by Joe Shea. An impressive debut. (S-28t)

★★★★★

STRANGER FANZEEN #8 ($1 *CASH* & 2 stamps from Erik Szantai, 15 Van Saun Dr., Trenton, NJ 08628): It's been fun watching this one grow and develop; this time there's a slicker layout with good use of reverse type. For content, there's interviews with The Fiendz, Slammin' Watussis, and Lone Wolf Circles (and Earth First! activist), show and zine and record reviews, and scene reports from Oregon and LA. A real positive feel here. (S-26t)

★★★★★

STREET #38 ($20/yr from PO Box 441019, Somerville, MA 02144): Not just another community tabloid. Mixed in with the stories on food co-ops, Ted Bundy and local art is an awful lot of activism. Their specialty is working with the homeless and highlighting the actions of scumbag landlords, both of which they do in this issue. There's also short fiction, a look at Boston's ACT UP, Garfield slurs and strange comix. (O-32t)

* * *

STREETRACING Vol. 1 #10-Vol. 2 #1 ($1 (?) from TLC International, PO Box 020261, Staten Island, NY 10302): Numbers 10 through 12 of this zine "for the exotic individualist" depart from their usual format of sleazy sex-related material, and are mostly made up of Yossarian Universal satirical news stories. I guess they wanted to catch up on their cover dates. #1 is back to normal, with a swingers chain letter and a survey on fisting. (S-2)

* * *

STREETS AHEAD ($1 from Jennifer Benjamin, 4644 Ruth Way, Union City, CA 94587): A mix of things that the editor has found interesting lately. The main feature in this issue is a look at the conspiratorial connections surrounding the mass deaths at Jonestown (you know, the People' Temple story). Jennifer does a good job of unraveling some of the loose ends, and also prints a strange post-60's tale of growing up. Bits of poetry fill in the corners. (S-16t)

* * *

STRESSED OUT #8 ($1 from Pauline Poisonous, 151 Arlington Ave., Daytona Beach, FL 32014): Punk lifestyle and music from the wilds of Florida (*are* there any wilds in Florida?). In #8 there's interviews with MDC and Social Distortion, comics, and stuff on anarchist gatherings past and future. (HL-24r)

* * *

STROKER 43 ($9/3 issues from Irving Stettner, 129-2nd Ave. #3, New York, NY 10003): A literary zine with its own particular stable of writers, notably the editor — whose stories of Paris are always amusing & informative — and prison artist Tommy Trantino. They publish a variety of poems, prose, letters (including excerpts from Henry Miller's writings) and original artworks in every issue. A tie back to an earlier generation of literary figures. (D-48)

* * *

STUKA ($1 from Steve MacDonald, 319 Piccadilly St. #2, London, ONT N6A 1S6, CANADA): A journal of graphic images of a rather disturbing sort — the collages here draw on World War II, mainly the German military, for their inspiration. The Nazis and their hardware are juxtaposed wit bits of modern culture, but what the point is I am not precisely sure. (S-10)

* * *

SUBHUMAN #13 ($3/2 issues from Cecil Doyle, 1509 W. St. Mry, Lafayette, LA 70506): A film zine dedicated to what they sometimes lovingly refer to as "shitflicks". In addition to reviews of such gems as "Deadly Weapons" and "The Undertaker and His Pals", #13 contains what may well be the most offensive cartoon I've seen this quarter. Kris Gilpin contributes more confusing screenplay and George Maranville details his role in the sequel to "She Spat on My Tombstone". (D-16t)

* * *

SUBJECT Vol. 1 #2 ($1 (?) from PO box 15352, 1500 Main St., Springfield, MA 01115): A rather heavy-duty philosophical and political zine with an academically respectable flavor. Articles contrast Habermas with Lyotard, examine the implications of Foucault for feminism, and discuss Heidegger's Nazi involvement. There's also a review of Kathy Acker's latest and part of Raymond Luc Levasseur's opening statement in the sedition trial. (D-43)

* * *

sub-TERRAIN #2 ($2.50 from Anvil Press, PO Box 1575, Stn. A, Vancouver, BC V6C 2P7, CANADA): A new literary journal which is trying to both speak for those on the margins of society and push the boundaries of genre writing. It's an ambitious plan, and one which is as yet succeeding only partially. The works in #2 are rather experimental at heart, but as they note in their editorial, they don't really get beyond the usual concerns of women. But there's hope for the future. (S-15t)

* * *

THE SUBTLE JOURNAL OF RAW COINAGE #19-21 (50¢ for #19 or #20, 40¢ for #21 from Geof Huth, 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305): Geof continues his innovative zine of new words and ever-changing formats. #19 is printed on the back of a library catalog card, and contains half a dozen coinages — my favorite being "omnipulate". #20 is subtitled "Televisionary" and features only two words, but as it is the size of a large postage stamp one can't complain. #21 is on a self-adhesive label, with completely unpronounceable words like "dhcmrlchtdj" (courtesy of Borges). (M-1, roughly)

* * *

SUBURBAN NIGHTMARE COME TRUE #1 (50¢ from Pinto, 203 E. 31st #311, Austin, TX 78705): A voice for the alternative artists and other alienated folks of the Austin area. This is a pretty wide grouping, running from musicians to SubGenii to poets. Collage, poems, lyrics, interviews and rants fill the pages of the first issue, only slightly marred by eyestrain. (S-16)

* * *

SUBURBAN VOICE #27 ($2 from Al Quint, PO Box 1605, Lynn, MA 01903): Al may have slowed down a bit, but he's still putting this music zine out a couple of times a year and manages to keep it interesting. Featured bands in this issue are Murphy's Law, Poison Idea, Uniform Choice, Eye for an Eye, and more — punk, in other words, is the focus. Regular columnists tuck in at the front and a pile of record reviews closes it off. Quiet competence. (S-52r)

* * *

SUCCESSFUL MAGAZINE PUBLISHING May/June 1989 ($5 from PO Box 2029, Tuscaloosa, AL 35403): A trade journal for magazine publishers who operate on a rather larger scale than I do. If your operation has grown to the point where you need to think about serious subscription software or a fulfillment address, or if you're wondering how to get your ad sales staff to stick to the rate card, check this out. If you're not in that league, don't bother. (S-64t)

* * *

A SUITABLE JOB FOR A WOMAN #9 ($1.50 from Sharon Rose, 203 Talley Rd., Chattanooga, TN 37411): A forum for discussion of mysteries involving female sleuths or other strong women characters. Sharon herself does much of the writing, reviewing a number of new books in this issue, although more contributors are eagerly sought. Read any good books lately? (S-10t)

* * *

SURREALIST OREGON ($1.50 from Terata Publications, PO Box 810, Hawthorne, CA 90251): This is a special issue (#5) of THUMBSCREW magazine, featuring exclusively writers, artists and poets from Oregon. The work is indeed surrealist, with fine performances from Misha, Jonathan Falk, David Memmott and David Barker being included. A weird way to clear out the cobwebs of your mind for a few moments. 20)

* * *

THE SURVIVOR Vol. 7 #5 ($10/12 issues from Kurt Saxon, PO Bo 327, Harrison, AR 72601): Kurt Saxon continues to come up with all sorts of information for the survivalist crowd. The contents in #5 range from how to make pancakes super-cheap and super-nutritious to a new hand-to-hand weapon he's designed for people with few scruples. (T-16)

* * *

SWEET & SWISHY Vol. 4 #1 ($2 from White Knight Productions, PO Box 656, Wautoma, WI 54982-0656): A collection of photos and drawings of children, mostly girls but with a few boys thrown in, and a bit of commentary on how sweet they look, especially the ones with long hair. The pics are culled from TV GUIDE, sewing magazines, and other public sources. (S-14)

* * *

SWL May 1989 ($2 (?) from ASWLC, 16182 Ballad Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92649): The newsletter of the American Shortwave Listeners Club, full of information about what stations around the world you can tune in if you're into this hobby. They publish tons of log reports and even some schedules, sorted by area of the world. (D35r)

* * *

TAKE NOTE Vol. 1 #1 ($10/yr from Musicians Who Care, PO Box 542, Encinitas, CA 92024): Musicians Who Care "is a grassroots, all-volunteer organization seeking to bridge the worlds of music and social service". Their musician members are involved in all sorts of causes, from touring the USSR to promote peace to PETA concerts to writing songs spotlighting prisoners of conscience. This issue starts by listing important events in 1988 and then features some of them. (S-8t)

* * *

TALES OF THE HOLOHOAX Vol. 1 #1 ($2 from Wiswell Ruffin House, PO Box 236, Dresden, NY 14441-0236): "A Journal of Satire", this one puts forth the basic tenets of Holocaust revisionism in comic form. The artist trots out the strongest evidence against the deliberate gassing of Jews by Nazis that he can find, and pours scorn on those who continue to support the majority verdict on these things. He also mentions a few atrocities perpetuated by Zionists and Israelis. (S-16)

* * *

TARA Spring 1989 ($6/yr from PO Box 1055, Northampton, MA 01061): "Journal of the Women's Prout Movement" — which may not tell you much unless you know that "Prout" is "Progressive Utilization Theory", an alternative to capitalism and communism developed in India. They favor a very humanistic approach to people, and get into everything from yoga to animal rights to simple and nutritious cooking. (S-22t)

* * *

TARANAKI UNDERGROUND ($32/5 issues from Fly in the Ointment, PO Box 112, Oakura, Taranaki, New Zealand): An anarchist zine that seems to be for a sort of generalized resistance or rebellion, preferring action to theory. They are a source of much news on government repression in New Zealand, which is something that's not easy to come by in this country. Rather stark and unattractive. (T-8)

* * *

A TASTE OF BILE #7 ($1 from K. Brewer, PO Box 7150, Waco, TX 76714): A rather original sleaze film zine. What other editor would start off by abusing his readers for a full page? Featured movies include some necrophiliac trash and flicks based on de Sade's "120 Days of Sodom". There's also some nice crossfertilization in the form of industrial music reviews. (S-12)

* * *

TAX WATCH Vol. 1 #4-5 ($15/yr from SCAT, PO Box 50799, Columbia, SC 29250): The newsletter of the South Carolina Association of Taxpayers, a group that's fed up with the very idea of paying taxes. They keep track of tax legislation in the state and its counties, and recommend ways for members to fight back. (HL-8)

* * *

TECHNOPHILIACS ANONYMOUS NEWSLETTER #3 (Free, "but $1 donation appreciated", from 6114 LaSalle Ave. #243, Oakland, CA 94611): A newsletter looking at the problem of society's addiction to technology, and at the various institutions which are co-dependant on this addiction. They're working on a booklet setting out this thesis; meanwhile, the newsletter serves up various columns and cartoons bearing somehow on our relationship to technology and its side effects. (S-8t)

★★★★★

TEEN STEAM Vol. 1 #1 (2 stamps from Thomas Bruce, 634 Rickert Rd., Sellersville, PA 18960): Well, you might call this a literary zine, but it would have to be a lot more high-falutin' to deserve that. Basically this is gutter stories, adolescent fantasies of sex and death, together with some clippings from more mainstream teen cult zines. Also includes a booklet of weird sex white boy poems from Paul Weinman. (D-12r)

★★★★★

TEMPLE OF SCHLOCK #17-18 ($4.50/6 issues from Paul DeCirce, 409 Hixson Ave., Syracuse, NY 13206): Rapid-fire video reviews, concentrating on horror flicks but branching out into other odds and ends from the exploitation world. Dave Szurek and John Feeney are now adding some continuity through regular columns as well. Not afraid to call a turkey a turkey, this rates as one of the more digestible newsletters in the field. (D-12r)

★★★★★

THE TENNESSEE FILE May 1989 (SASE from PO Box 23061, Knoxville, TN 37933-1061): First issue of a new zine from the Anarchist Black Cross in Knoxville, a prisoner support group. They print a short history of the ABC, hints on writing to prisons, and a variety of contact addresses, including a list of publications free to prisoners. (D-4r)

REMEMBER:
Reality is not a TOY!
(c) 1989

★★★★★

THE TENNESSEE TIMES Vol. 1 #1 ($1 (?) from David M. Dickson, PO Box 16255, Knoxville, TN 37996-4900): "A Journal of Opinion" from the University of Tennessee, this one seems to be related to the new wave of conservative campus papers. Yet it is both drier than most of those and ideologically a bit different, working to rebuild the vanished libertarian-conservative alliance of the 60s. For example, they spend some time rehabilitating the industrial revolution, as well as saying bad things about Mike Dukakis and pleading for more money for the library on campus. (T-8t)

★★★★★

TERRAPIN SYNDICATE 11 (1 IRC from Lot Duran No. 3, 40120 Pouydesseaux, FRANCE): A mail art bulletin which concentrates on getting some essential information out quickly. Basically it reports on upcoming shows, with details on what to contribute and how. Most listings are in Europe, although Japan and the USA are also represented. (A4-1)

★★★★★

THE TERRITORIAL HERALD Vol. IX #3 ($1 from PO Box 7075, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677): "The legal newspaper of the Free territory of Ely-Chatelaine", a "household kingdom" set up by Marc-Eric Ely-Chaitlin. It contains news of other household that are playing along with his libertarian monarchy scheme, as well as editorial comments on national and local issues. (HL-12r)

★★★★★

THE TEST BANNER Vol. 2 #5-6 (Donation from APT, PO Box 26735, Las Vegas, NV 89126): The newspaper of the American Peace Test, the group dedicated to stopping nuclear testing. Their major activity is civil disobedience and witness at the Nevada Test Site. Exciting and empowering. Much of #5 was devoted to organizing the major action for the year, "Reclaim the Test Site II". #6 reports on the results, including over 1500 arrests in 10 days of civil disobedience — something which the papers here didn't even bother to mention. (T-12t)

★★★★★

THE TEXAS MUSIC CONTACT LIST #2 (SASE from Underground Publications, PO Box 14139, Arlington, TX 76094-1139): A guide to the music scene in Texas. The criteria for being listed are to be in the state and to stay in touch with the publishers. Gives names, addresses and phone numbers for bands, publishers, radio, clubs, agents and more. Still lots of room to grow but looks useful already. (L-2r)

★★★★★

THE TEXAS OASIS June 1989 (Donation from Texas Earth First!, PO Box 7292, University Stn., Austin, TX 78713): Radical environmental news from Texas. The bad news is that legislative approaches to preserving endangered species in the Austin area have been torpedoed. The good news is that the Exxon spill has galvanized a lot of people in the area to action. They'll send you an "Exxon Suxx!" bumper sticker for $1. (S-10)

★★★★★

TEXTURE Vol. 1 #4 ($1 (?) from The Art Mill, 6341 Arapahoe, Boulder, CO 80303): A local arts tabloid that casts a broad net. #4 is a special issue devoted to "art and technology", with articles on music only realizable on player piano, an interview with Little Fyodor, and microwave burrito reviews. (T-12t)

★★★★★

THEY WON'T STAY DEAD #3-4 ($1 from B. Johnson, 11 Werner Rd., Greenville, PA 16125): Coverage of horror and related films, as well as items in the genre (like trading cards and other zines). The editor tends to stick to things he appreciates, making this something of a tribute to the B movies of yore. Dyanne Thorne and Plan 9 both show up in #4. (D-12)

★★★★★

THIS #3 ($2 from PO Box 1005, Dekalb, IL 60115): Looking better all the time, this one is mostly interviews, though the music reviews do work their way in as well. This issue sports chats with My Dad Is Dead, Killdozer, some especially drunk members of the Didjits, and The Watchmen. Nice job on the photos too. (S-35t)

★★★★★

THIS MONTH IN MAINE LITERATURE Vol. IV #4-5 ($20/yr from Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance, 19D Mason St., Brunswick, ME 04011): A tabloid for writers in Maine, obviously enough. Less obvious is that they have things to offer to writers outside the state, like the advice on locating an agent or the reviews of writers' how-to books in #5. A subscription also gives you a discount on dozens of titles published in the state. (T-12t)

★★★★★

THIS ZINE SUCKS #16 ($1 from Bob Conrad, PO Box 7952, West Trenton, NJ 08628): Biggest name interview in this issue is probably Tesco Vee, though frankly I'm more interested in what Uncle Bob Touched Me had to say. Just in case you're slow, this is about punk and other new music, and it seems to be improving still. Lots of zine and record reviews, a few shows, the basic format for such zines but done well. (S-26r)

★★★★★

THORAZINE #3 ($1 from G. Ancheta, 8624 Hemlock Hill Dr., Houston, TX 77083): A hardcore zine with a good selection of smaller groups that play loud music: Sockeye, L7, Plaid Retina and Ditch Witch are among those included in this issue. The layout shows care and originality, and the reviews, though short, are informative. Comes with free stickers. (S-22r)

★★★★★

THE THOUGHT Vol. 9 #4-5 ($1 from PO Box 3092, Orange, CA 92665): A collection of essays and opinions with a generally libertarian slant. In #5, for example, Kenn Wood does a hatchet job on Communism in theory and practice, while Joe David and Gene Lehman continue to discuss new ideas in education. (S-22)

★★★★★

THOUGHT PARADE #1 ($1 from Lynn Perry, PO Box 1241, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054): A collection of poetry and short prose with a lot of opinions to spread, from various underground writers. This is writing from the heart and soul, whether it's Jana Hakes portraying a bad day at the diner or Lone Wolf Circles standing up for the wilderness. Real strong for a first issue, and full of love and thought. (S-18t)

★★★★★

THRUST #33-34 ($2.50 from 8217 Langport Terr., Gaithersburg, MD 20877): A quite solid "Science Fiction & Fantasy Review" with an enjoyable mix of features. In #33 Charles Platt talks to Vic Koman, John Shirley complains about the social myopia of the hardcore techies, and Richard Geis returns to book reviewing. There's also a rather forgettable account of one fan's visit to a declining Robert Heinlein, and an armload of book reviews. #34 adds audio and video SF reviews to the mix, along with an interview with Forry Ackerman. (S-30t)

★★★★★

THUMPER May-June 1989 ($1.50 from Broughton Press, 17020 76th Ave. W., Edmonds, WA 98020): I don't know quite what to make of this one. Diane Broughton writes of ecological and food issues, and takes one of the strongest stands against modern technology in these and other areas (such as medical diagnosis) I have yet seen. It's all backed up by solid info and references, but seems unbalanced nonetheless, perhaps because of her no-nonsense attitude. Cautiously recommended. (S-8t)

★★★★★

TOO FAR #7 (50¢ from Adrienne, 3815 San Pablo #7, Emeryville, CA 94608): I wonder why there aren't more self-published zines with a feminist focus? Well, TF fills some of the gap, with articles and stories of life from women with a variety of experiences. There is strong writing here, from the tale of an abortion to notes on domestic violence to a review of a movie protraying rape. Very sincere stuff, and it's good to know someone is trying to talk about all these issues. (D-20)

★★★★★

THE TORCH May 15-July 15, 1989 (50¢ from POO Box 1288 GPO, New York, NY 10116): We may not have this paper of the Revolutionary Socialist League to kick around for much longer; the RSL is discussing disbanding to integrate themselves further into the anarchist movement. Meanwhile, this remains a good source of news of activists from the Eastern bloc, and a source for interesting theoretical articles like the reprinted "The Tyranny of Structurelessness" in the May issue. The July issue has the new ON GOGOL BOULEVARD as an insert, plus an evaluation of the Left Green Network. (T-16t)

★★★★★

THE TORCH #133 ($2 (?) from PO Box 88, Bass, AR 72612): "The National Voice of Christian Identity", this has no connection at all with the above paper. A mix of hatred for jews and blacks fuels their rhetoric, with the current pitch being that AIDS is a disease of the minorities that white Americans should be protected from. For $30 they'll send you the report on their skinhead convention, but frankly, I wouldn't like to see them get that much money from anyone. (T-12t)

★★★★★

TOUCHPOINT Vol. 2 #2 ($4 from PO Box 355, McVeytown, PA 17051): A networking journal for people who are "nonmonogamous" — whether involved in open relationships, group marriages, or other alternative forms of love. It's made up of short ads from folks who want to get in touch with others, mostly for stable relationships, without the heavy-handed "meat market" look of a swingers contact zine. About 75 listings. (S-9t)

★★★★★

TOXIC YUPPIE DEATH #1 ($2 from Zachary Berman, 1209 Eastwood Ave., Mayfield Hts., OH 44124): A zine of punk music and culture. Things are not too packed here, but they get in short interviews with Sockeye, the Undead, Psycho and mroe. There's also poetry, collages, photos, artwork (from skulls to buxom women) and even a story or two. They promise to use their profits to help support the local scene. (S-30)

★★★★★

TRANET #58 ($30/yr from PO Box 567, Rangeley, ME 04970): Short news bites (about the size of an FF review) dealing with appropriate technology, non-governmental organizations, international peacemaking, ecology, changing families, and other topics of social interest. #58 includes a timely pull-out directory of folks working on new ideas for easing the solid waste crisis. (S-16t)

★★★★★

TRANSITIONS Dec. 1988-May 1989 ($1 (?) from Inland Empire Public Lands Council, PO Box 2174, Spokane, WA 99210): News coverage of the continuing logging of our forests, reprinted from a raft of other, reputable sources. The December issue is largely concerned with clearcutting; May looks at how much timber we're chopping out of National Forests to send to Japan. Intellectually, I already knew about the senselessness of clearcutting; looking at these sickening pictures, I can now feel it in my gut as well. (S-16t)

★★★★★

TRANSITIONS ABROAD May/June-July/Oct. 1989 ($4.50 from PO Box 344, Amherst, MA 01004): A publication for the "learning traveler" — those who go abroad not just to gawk, but to study or to live with a native family. The May issue centers on the Mediterranean, with articles on travel in Egypt, France, Spain, Sicily and more. Plenty of leads for the student or other with lots of time who wants to spend it overseas. The July issue is their annual "Educational Travel Directory ($6.95), which surveys the field and gives contact information for dozens of useful organizations, from socially responsible travel to hospitality exchanges. (S-54t)

★★★★★

TRASH COMPACTOR Vol. 2 #3 ($3.50 from 253 College St. #108, Toronto, ONT M5T 1R5, CANADA): A journal of exploitation films and related subjects, assembled with loving care and featuring plenty of old posters and publicity stills. #3 looks at the top ten blasphemy films of all kinds, assembles a Partridge Family discography, and looks at Veronica Lake's wretched last film. They also review the best of the other "smut peddling" press and come up with a religiously offensive cover that's pretty blatant. (S-38t)

★★★★★

TREETOP PANORAMA #15 ($2 from RR 1, Box 150, Payson, IL 62360): A rather idiosyncratic journal of social and political opinion. Editor Jared Scarborough uses his space to expand on some of the ideas from his book **A HOME PARTY PLATFORM** (see FF30) and to present other voices looking for creative alternatives to business as usual. There's a down-home rural feel to these "common sense" ideas. (S-32)

★★★★★

TRIANGLE COMIC REVIEW 4/26/89 ($16/yr from PO Box 906, Carrboro, NC 27510-0906): Primarily a collection of single-panel cartoons, both editorial and satirical. There are also columns from Joe Bob Briggs and Hunter Thompson, plus a few other oddments of humor and satire. (T-24t)

★★★★★

TRUANT #2 ($1.50 (?) from PO Box 42185, Memphis, TN 38104): Pretty much the standard music zine features (in case you've just come out of a coma, that's interviews, record and zine reviews, but in this case no live show reviews). Bands here include Economchrist, Government Issue, and Uniform Choice. (S-24r)

★★★★★

TRUST #18 (3DM from Dolf Hermannstadter jun, Salzmanstr. 53, 8900 Augsburg, WEST GERMANY): A fat zine of hardcore music with lots of photos and plenty of words to help you brush up on your German. #18 features Cat-O'-Nine Tails, Life But How to Live It, and So Much Hate, plus tons of reviews and the good-looking but unmistakably punk layout they've perfected over the years. (A4-64r)

★★★★★

THE TRUTH SEEKER NEWSLETTER Vol. 1 #1-3 (Donation from 7215 Cameron Rd., Austin, TX 78752-2973): This is the Madalyn Murray O'Hair backed "alternate world" version of this freethought magazine, supporting her efforts to take over the organization since James Johnson's death. It's a mix of history and Machiavellian infighting, somewhat amusing to those on the sidelines. For the whole story, you should also get the February issue of the other **TRUTH SEEKER** (see FF30). As far as I can tell, it's O'Hair who's involved in the power-mad money-grabbing, not the folks she's suing. (S-8t)

★★★★★

TURD CIRCUS Vol. 1 #1 ($1 & SASE from Philip R. Bonner, 229 E. 10th St. #8, New York, NY 10003): This is what used to be called a "lettersub": a zine which takes the place of writing letters to all one's friends. However, since Philip has access to all sorts of high-tech equipment, it looks a lot slicker than the old lettersubs, all typeset and with scanned photos. Includes news of his life, reviews of recent things seen or heard, and an odd comic drawing. FF started out as a lettersub too; great things could be in store here. (D-8t)

★★★★★

TURNING THE TIDE Vol. 2 #3-5 ($3/yr from Boxholder, PO Box 10488, Burbank, CA 91510): Put out by People Against Racist Terror, this is a grassroots anti-racist organizing zine with a youthful flavor. They work with other groups like SHARP and ACT-UP to oppose the far right, as well as to point out the more mainstream racism of "patriots" in this country. Information and organizing come together here. Focused on Southern California, but carrying a bit of news from elsewhere. (S-4)

★★★★★

TWR Vol. 10 #2 (On Request from PO Box 98, Chatham, NJ 07928): The magazine of Trans World Radio, a Christian evangelical group with transmitters and missionaries worldwide. They take a low-key approach to fundraising, listing their good works and asking politely for support. This issue focuses on their mideast operations, broadcasting to 20 countries from the island of Cyprus. (S-24t)

★★★★★

TYG Vol. V #6 ($1 from Paul Gardner, PO Box 97, Brattleboro, VT 05301): Paul is the American agent for this UK Diplomacy zine, which is actually edited by Mark Nelson. There's more concentration on the hobby than on particular games here, with esoteric arguments being conducted in the letter column and strategy articles later on. There are also a few pages on bridge as well as strong contacts with the Canadian branch of the hobby. (A5-32r)

★★★★★

U&lc. Vol. 16 #2 ($5 from ITC, 2 Hammarskjold Plaza, New York, NY 10017): A journal of typography which predates the desktop publishing revolution. This means that even though there is some orientation towards computers in it today (especially in the ads) there is also plenty of traditional design horse-sense. Large format and graphically striking, it serves as a handy source to swipe ideas from. (O-68t)

★★★★★

UFO Vol. 4 #2 ($4.25 from California UFO, 1800 S. Robertson #355, Los Angeles, CA 90035): Easily the most flashy of the various UFO magazines that I see from time to time — and the one which lends credence to the most off the wall stories. #2, for example, looks at the idea of underground UFO bases. They also do a special section on the pros and cons of hypnotic regression and investigate a UFO sighting cluster in Alabama. (S-48t)

★★★★★

UFO REVIEW #29 ($1.50 from PO Box 753, New Brunswick, NJ 08903): The scuzziest UFO journal I've ever seen — the NATIONAL ENQUIRER of the field. Publisher Tim Beckley claims to have solved "The Riddle of MJ-12 and Hanger 18", and proved the stories about the government having alien bodies on ice somewhere. However, you'll have to pay $14 to get his report on the subject. Otherwise, the mag is at least 50% ads, most with Beckley's address, for crystals and Nostradamus and Fatima prophecies and similar garbage. For the credulous or easily amused only. (S-32t)

★★★★★

THE UGLY AMERICAN #3 ($2 from Greg Chapman, Box 2061, SSC, Pomona, NJ 08240): The main feature in this music zine is a longish interview with Live Skull, covering the GG question, the rumors of Thalia's death, and a lot more. Plenty of music reviews too, ranging from one-line flipoffs to half-page analyses (rather more of the former, though; there's little patience with bad records here). A Sun City Girls interview rounds out the offerings. (S-40)

★★★★★

UNBROKEN CHAIN Vol. 4 #2-3 ($1 from PO Box 8726, Richmond, VA 23226): A newsletter for fans of the Grateful Dead. They publish set lists for recent shows, pass on news and fight rumors. They also help with more info on the various good causes (like the rainforests) the Dead have given publicity to. Classifieds and ads from other Deadheads also appear. (S-12)

★★★★★

UNCLE JAM QUARTERLY #93 ($10/4 issues from 2705 E. 7th St., Long Beach, CA 90804): A cultural publication that tries to focus on the positive things in life. They're big on improving literacy and on a social change project called "Cartoonists Across America". There's also articles on a trip to China and the art of John Lennon. An eclectic mix. (T-16t)

★★★★★

UNCOMMON DESIRES #3 ($5 *CASH* from n.s. aristoff, PO Box 2377, New York, NY 10185): "The voice of an emerging politically-conscious girl-love underground." This one consists of well-written articles about our society's attitude towards the sexuality of children, and arguments that that attitude is screwing us up. The article on child porn sting operations is worth a read — the blunt lesson is not to trust anyone who sends you a letter about sex with kids, as they're likely working for the Post Office. (S-23t)

★★★★★

UNDERGROUND #2 (£2 Sterling MO/CASH from Janet Ellicott, 43 Brooksbank House, Retreat Place, Morning Lane, Hackney, London E9 6RN, ENGGLAND): A zine for media fans, mainly directed at television in Great Britain. This issue contains episode-by-episode summaries for the new Star Trek and Beauty and the Beast, a guide to satellite TV services, some stuff on computers in media fandom, and various bits of news. (S-18r)

★★★★★

THE UNDERGROUND FILM BULLETIN #8 ($3 from PO Box 1589, New York, NY 10009): A zine about movies that no one else dares (or bothers) to cover, mainly from the NYC film underground. Kembra Pfahler is the main feature in this issue, with a couple of interviews and a batch of pictures. A few other things get reviewed, Nick Zedd creeps in around the edges, and a George Bataille text on "Transgression", with gory photos, wraps up the package. (S-52)

★★★★★

THE UNDERGROUND FOREST/LA SELVA SUBTERRANEA #6 ($3 from 21 Forest Ave., Portland, ME 04101): A bilingual literary journal with contributions from North, Central and South America. Many deal largely with issues of the day, cocaine manufacture and Agent Orange for example. But there are also poems of love, an analysis of some folklore, notes on the enterprise of translation, and more. A very impressive collection. (O-48t)

★★★★★

THE UNDERGROUND GRAMMARIAN Vol. 13 #3 ($15/8 issues from R. Mitchell, PO Box 203, Glassboro, NJ 08028): A crotchety journal of observation on the world of education — that is, on what goes on in the schools, which may not be the same thing. Mitchell has no truck for New Math, experiential learning, or indeed, anything else thought of by professors of education. In short, witty essays, he rips all such nonsense to shreds. (D-8t)

★★★★★

UNDERGROUND SURREALIST MAGAZINE #5 ($3 from Mick Cusimano, PO Box 2565, Cambridge, MA 02238): This one continues to improve as Mick expands his stable of artists and writers. This is a special issue, "Rock and Roll and All That Jazz", that takes a satirical look at the music world. Highlights include Tony Fitzgerald doing a strip about dueling critics in the old West and Mick's own photo-laden article about the Soviet hippies. (S-27)

★★★★★

UNHINGED #3 (£1.80 from Paul Ricketts, The Old Schoolhouse, Yatesbury, Nr Calne, Wilts., SN11 8YE, ENGLAND): This is one of those densely-packed music zines which seem to breed in the UK. I suppose "garage rock" comes closest to their focus but they are in fact quite eclectic: Arthur Brown, Sidewinders, Les Thugs, John Fahey, and zillions of other bands are chatted with here, and reviews range from Bevis Frond to Live Skull. Includes a free Chemistry Set flexi and a free insert color poster for Michael Hurley. (A4-44r)

★★★★★

UNIFIED SOCIETY #3 ($1.50 (?) from 5001 Concord, Corpus Christi, TX 78415): A hardcore music zine that features a whole batch of folks I've never heard of: Infest, the Krayons, Pink Lincolns, Vomit Spots — in fact the only band here I knew already was Pissed Happy Children. SO if you want new punk this is one place to look. A few decent photos and some record and zine reviews are also in the package. (D-36)

★★★★★

UNITY Vol. 12 #6 ($5/6 months from PO Box 29293, Oakland, CA 94604): "For Peace, Justice, Equality & Socialism", this one is targeted specifically for people of color. Besides the traditionalist socialist news from mainline labor fights, they highlight issues like homework in the garment trade, where a disproportionate number of Latin Americans are employed. Most of the contents are also translated into Spanish. (T-12t)

★★★★★

UPDATE July 1989 (Donation from PO Box 84116, San Diego, CA 92138): Two pages of free thought, issued at irregular intervals. This issue praises the worldwide *samizhdat* press, from China to FACTSHEET FIVE. It also pricks a few holes in the balloon of Madalyn Murray O'Hair's vanity with none too gentle satire. (S-2r)

★★★★★

UP FRONT Vol. 1 #1 ($1 (?) from National Forum Foundation, 214 Massachusetts Ave. NE, Washington, DC 20002): "A National Forum Foundation Newsletter Reporting On Activities Affecting National Security". What that means is yet another cry of alarm over the operations of Communist front groups in this country. They list them, they complain about their Soviet control, they warn against them. The conservative line on the evil empire. (S-6t)

★★★★★

THE UPRIGHT OSTRICH Vol. VIII #5-6 ($3 from PO Box 11961, Milwaukee, WI 53211): Over the last few years the voices of the fighting conservative publications seem to have weakened. The OSTRICH is a happy exception to this trend, still willing to lambaste the government at any provocation. #5 is a typical issue, with thoughts on prison labor, tax resistance, the various plots to control our lives, and impeaching Bush, for starters. #6 draws a lesson from Tiananmen Square: "DON'T LET THEM GET YOUR GUNS!" Inclined to conspiracy theory but still provocative reading. (S-24t)

★★★★★

UP SOUTH #4 ($5/yr from John Brown Anti-Klan Committee, PO Box 406, Stuyvesant Stn., New York, NY 10009): An anti-Klan and generally anti-racist newsletter concentrating on the New York City area. They report on incidents that have happened around town, and are trying to organize a wide-ranging resistance. They're concerned with racism in government as well as freelancers like the KKK. (S-6t)

★★★★★

URBAN RAG #10 ($1 from Jonathan Ment, PO Box 100270, Brooklyn, NY 11210): Basically wall-to-wall record reviews, with some live music reviews tucked in for good measure. Sonic Youth, David E. Eilliams, Laibach, Misfits, Replacements — basically the cream of the crop of independent music. Jonathan does most of the writing himself, and his opinions are always honest though sometimes a bit on the wishy-washy side (like mine, I suppose). (D-16r)

★★★★★

USELESS YOUTH #1 ($1 from PO Box 267, Otisville, MI 48463): This new entry focuses mostly on Midwest music — lots of bands from places like Ohio and Michigan, even Tennessee. Sockeye, 2 Car Family, The Divorced and Meenies feature in the debut issue, along with a few reviews and a collage of stickers and other promo items. (HL-20)

★★★★★

USSR NEWS BRIEF #5/6-11 1989 ($22/yr from Das Land und Die Welt e.V., Schwanthalerstrasse 73, 8000 Munich 2, WEST GERMANY): Human rights news from the Soviet Union, as comprehensive as it is possible to make it. Divided by region, it tracks arrests, strikes, armed actions, trials, imprisonments, and releases, among other things. A jampacked source of information. #9/10 has reports on the use of CS gas in Georgia. (A5-30r)

★★★★★

UTOPIA NOW #2 (50p. from Paul Harrison, 46 Leatham Park Rd., Purston, Pontefract, West Yorkshire, WF7 5DT, ENGLAND): A relatively new zine devoted to modern "Utopian" groups — ideological descendents of the Dadaists and similar artistic movements. This time Paul gives some basic info on the Lettristes and COBRA (while admitting he's no expert), mentions worthwhile films starting with the letter B, lays out the career of David Lynch in films and that of Coil in music. (A4-25)

★★★★★

VAGUE #16/17-20 ($7 from Flatland Distribution, PO Box 2420, Fort Bragg, CA 95437-2420): Normally I don't review back issues but since Flatland was kind enough to send these along I thought I would at least mention them. This is a British magazine of rebellion, done in a lovely format with lots of color overlays and revolutionary graphics. #16/17 is the "Psychic Terrorism Annual", featuring much on the Situationists including a decent history of France '68. #18/19 is the "Control Data Manual", full of conspiracy theories from the Illuminati to Manson. #20 is "Televisionaries", modern revolutionists from the Red Army Front to the Sex Pistols. (A4-100t)

★★★★★

VANGUARD PRESS Vol. XII #5 ($13/6 months from 87 College St., Burlington, VT 05401): "Vermont's News and Arts Weekly", although this particular issue features a lot of special news on business — mostly on how miserable regular big business is and how to find more socially responsible things to invest in. They also review relatively big-name music (Bruce Cockburn) and grouse about local politics. (T-28t)

★★★★★

VARIANT #5 ($5 from Flatland Distribution, PO Box 2420, Fort Bragg, CA 95437-2420): An avant garde magazine of the arts from Scotland. They're involved in various cutting-edge movements, printing texts from Karen Eliot and documentation of the Festival of Plagiarism in this issue, for example. There is also much interest in using art to put forth working-class concerns, a project which seems somewhat paradoxical. Nice centerfold of detourned billboards. (S-54t)

★★★★★

VETERANS FOR PEACE JOURNAL #9 ($2 from PO Box 3881, Portland, ME 04104): This veterans' group has a fairly simple goal: the abolition of war. To this end they are working with other vets around the world, not only on a political level but on a humanitarian one. Every issue has plenty of exciting news, and although they're small they're also feisty — could be the start of an important movement. (S-24t)

★★★★★

VETERANS' UPDATER #3 ($2 from White Knight Productions, PO Box 656, Wautoima, WI 54982): A collection of patriotic and veterans-related news stories, many culled from the American Legion News Service. There are also winning essays from a local post's contest on the topic "Why the Constitution is Important". (S-14t)

★★★★★

VIABLE #1-2 (50¢ from 1430 Willamette #177, Eugene, OR 97401): A minizine whose purpose is not exactly clear. They juxtapose verses from Bible tracts with some of the more gruesome example of human behavior — killing out of ennui, child molestation, whatever. Whether the intended effect is to discredit the Gospel or save the sinners is left as an exercise for the reader. (M-20)

★★★★★

VICIOUS HIPPIES FROM PANDA HELL #6 (SASE from Box 115, 2718 SW Kelly #C, Portland, OR 97201): A little zine of music and stuff. This issue includes interviews with Vomit Launch and Beat Happening, plus a couple pages of zine and record reviews. There's some short fiction too and a few other surprises tucked in the corners. (D-16r)

★★★★★

VIDEO VOICE #11 ($3 from Timothy Paxton, MPO Box 67, Oberlin, OH 44074-0067): This video zine has vastly upgraded lately, now appearing with a slick cover and with something upwards of 60 video reviews. Timothy devotes special columns to foreign video, animation and ultra-cheapies in this issue. There's also an interview with Jim Morton, publisher of POP VOID and TRASHOLA. (S-26t)

★★★★★

VIEW FROM THE LEDGE #27-28 (Send clippings to Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 57141, Washington, DC 20037): A collection of strange but true news, sent to people who send such news in to Chuck — although if he's in a good mood you may be able to get a copy for a stamp. Stupid burglars, weird murders, dumb inventions, failed sex acts and more: the detritus of a society going quietly mad. Laugh and the world will look at you funny...well, now you can look back the same way. (S-4r)

★★★★★

THE VILLAGE NOIZE #7 ($2 from Eric Wielander, 48-54 213 St., Bayside, NY 11364): This music zine (mostly hardcore but with some exceptions, like the KRS-1 interview) is looking real good, on nice paper with a fine layout. Plenty of interviews in #7, featuring Leeway, Soundgarden, American Standard, White Zombie and photographer B. J. Papas. There's also a good heap of honest reviews. (S-42t)

★★★★★

VIRGINIA LIBERTY Vol. 5 #3-4 ($10/yr from LPVA, PO Box 28263, Richmond, VA 23228): Libertarianism is still publishing in Virginia, though not in any great quantity. Mostly this paper tries to keep the faith in a region where their thought is apparently not popular, plugging national campaigns, printing letters to the editor, and otherwise trying to get the basic philosophy of freedom across. In #4 they have the guts to publish an editorial defending Exxon from what their writer sees as environmentalist hysteria. (T-4t)

★★★★★

VIRGIN MEAT #8 ($1 from 5247 W. L-10, Quartz Hill, CA 93536): A zine of rather gothic fiction and poetry. Lots of vampires and death and what-not show up in these literary works, which are presented in a compact format that lets the editor cram a lot in to each issue. Alternative reading from the punk side of things. (D-24r)

★★★★★

VOICES FROM SPIRIT Vol. 3 #1-2 (50¢ from PO Box 5155, Ellsworth, ME 04605): A "spiritist" publication — the equivalent of "channeling" but in a previous jargon. These folks take questions for all sorts of famous dead people, from Anne Frank to Brigham Young, and print the answers in their newsletter. They also feature short fiction and editorials on New Age matters. (S-8r)

★★★★★

VOX POPULI (SASE (?) from Jennifer Wiseman, 515 Kendall Ln., Dekalb, IL 60115): Little bits of poetry and drawings and stuff scattered around a couple of pages almost at random. There's a fair amount packed in here, and it looks mostly like a free forum for creativity. Maybe your lost works could find a home here, if they're short enough. (S-2)

★★★★★

WAGE SLAVE WORLD NEWS Vol. 1 #1-7 ($12/12 issues from PO Box 3511, Madison, WI 53704): Modeled on the WEEKLY WORLD NEWS, this is a satirical anarchist labor periodical — very likely the only one of its kind. Banner headlines, outrageous pictures and flat-out lies make it great reading, especially if you recognize the in-jokes. Labor zombies, eating Joe Hill's ashes, George Meany pinups, and lots more here. (S-4)

★★★★★

WAJLEMAC #6 (50¢ from PO Box 312, Larkspur, CA 94939): A somewhat unfocused music-centered zine. This issue ranges from a plug for teen paperback romance novels as useful escapism to statistics on murder to reviews of zines and music. There's some weird fiction from Claudia Jung and some skate photos as well. A bit of everything from the scene. (D-40r)

★★★★★

WALK AWAY Vol. 1 #1 (On Request from Simon, Porteus & Associates, PO Box 589, Great Barrington, MA 01230): A new publication for those who have walked away from "destructive Bible-based religious groups", or those who want to but still need support. They're pretty straightforward in their opposition, mentioning some of the silliest fundamentalist antics and giving a list of warning signs to identify destructive groups. (S-4t)

★★★★★

W.A.M.M. Vol. 7 #8-10 ($25/yr from 3255 Hennepin Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55408): The newsletter of Women Against Military Madness, an antiwar group which does a lot of networking within the country and around the world. They discuss both what's being done with your taxes in the way of escalation and what could be done with them to help people. A good source of news on marches, rallies and other events in Minnesota. (S-8t)

★★★★★

THE WASHINGTON REPORT ON MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS Vol. VIII #1-3 ($15/yr from American Educational Trust, PO Box 53062, Washington, DC 20077-0009): Relatively non-partisan news about all manner of events in the Middle East — which means they're often critical of the Israelis. They reprint tons of articles and opinion pieces from all over and are a good

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source of news. #1, for example, was the first place that gave me an in-depth look at post-Khomeini Iranian politics. #2 has a variety of articles focusing on the situation in Lebanon. (S-50t)

★★★★★

WDC PERIOD #18 ($2 from Gordon Ornelas, PO Box 50084, Washington, DC 20004-0084): A mostly-music tabloid that gets as far afield as comics and video coverage besides a whole load of the usual reviews and interviews. Jim Hoffman spouts off in his own inimitable way, and the Psychodrama interview has to be read to be believed — they really do seem to be unsavory folks. Poetry, pictures, manic energy. (T-48t)

★★★★★

THE WEEDEATER #2 ($1 from USF #3146, Tampa, FL 33620-3146): Formerly RED RASPBERRY, this little zine takes a radical view of the US government and the System in general, portraying it as an instrument of oppression of the poor, Africans, and others. Articles discuss the war on drugs and its effect on local communities, electronic surveillance, and US imperialism abroad, though all on an introductory level. (D-24)

★★★★★

WEEKHAAR 1 (IRCs from Niels, Erosplants. 18, 1131 WL Volendam, HOLLAND): Other than the interview with Soulside, it's all in Dutch, but this multicolored extravaganza is clearly a music magazine. Judging from the cartoons and drawings they're having a good time, while writing about folks like Fugazi, Fallus, and Suzannes. (A5-48r)

★★★★★

THE WEST VIRGINIA SURF REPORT #8 (SASE from PO Box 77027, Greensboro, NC 27417-7027): No, it's not from West Virginia, but that's OK because it's not about surfing either. The contents here are bizarre and funny stories, literature for long bus rides through Middle America when the whole world is starting to seem normal. Jeff rambles a lot, and his mind is populated with crazy images of a kitschier United States, but the whole is quite amusing. (S-4r)

★★★★★

WE THE PEOPLE #38-39 ($2 from Michael Wolff, PO Box 704, South Houston, TX 77587-0704): This political apa is still plowing along with healthy mailings, although a few people make up most of the discussion. Folks from all points of the ideological opinion are here: libertarian, liberal, conservative, near-fascist...no commies or socialists that I can see (yet). Freewheeling discussion of anything related to current affairs. (S-124)

★★★★★

WET PAINT #25 ($3 from Jeff Smith, 2106 Tradewind Dr. #182, Mesquite, TX 75150): A fanzine that centers on horror and other pooh-poohed genre movies, but is equally at home with reviewing associated literature, from Batman comics to MORE OF THE STRAIGHT DOPE. This issue includes a talk with George Romero about his work on "Monkeyshines" and a defense of the artistic merits of "Scream Blacula Scream". There's also a selection of surreal scenes from horror movies. (S-32r)

★★★★★

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT #4-5 ($3 from Alan Blaustein, 89 E. 3rd St. #5C, New York, NY 10003): A variegated collection of art, poetry, and prose, from a "loosely organized cooperative". #4 includes poems from Lorraine Schein, a wonderfully detailed couple of drawings from Anique Taylor, and a lusty excerpt from a novel in progress by Karen Latimer. Rubberstamp decorations and a photographic poem help make #5 eyecatching. The works here tend to be a bit experimental, but not so much so as to be especially hard work to enjoy. (S-20)

★★★★★

WHAT NOW #4 ($2.50 from Chris Bridgen, 163 Princess #5, Kingston, ONT, K7L 2A9, CANADA): A zine of music and miscellany that's getting better all the time. It was amazing to read about Canada Post banning MAXIMUM ROCKNROLL's sexuality issue, fun to see the innovative zine reviews, and intriguing to browse through the interview with Captain Crunch & Let's Do Lunch. They also feature opinion pieces, short fiction, and a do-it-yourself MRR record review. On top of that, they're looking for interesting letters on whatever interests you. (S-42r)

★★★★★

WHAT'S THE POINT #4 ($1.50 from PO Box 461, Bellflower, CA 90706): Some hint of the attitude behind this music zine may be gained by noting that records reviewed are rated on a "Mosh Scale". Besides the reviews there are short interviews with bands like No For An Answer, Insted, and Visual Discrimination. Nice photos, especially for a photocopied zine. (D-28)

★★★★★

WHAT WAVE #17 ($5 from O'Halloran, 17 Erie Ave., London, ONT, N6J 1H9, CANADA): A zine for the lover of all sorts of classic music: surf, garage, folk rock, and other "trash". This issue features the Del Lords, Surf Trio, the Thanes, Progressive Minstrels and many other bands, with lots of pictures and record reviews. It also includes a 29-band 90-minute tape, full of fuzz guitar, covers of things like "Gloria", and down-to-earth grungy playing. A joy to immerse oneself in. (S-51r & tape)

★★★★★

WHEN SATURDAY COMES #28 ($2 from Flatland Distribution, PO Box 2420, Fort Bragg, CA 95437-2420): "The Half Decent Football Magazine" — which, since it's published in London, you will have no trouble deducing means "soccer". Mostly editorial content and not match coverage (they list dozens of other zines that do that). This issue is largely devoted to analyzing the tragedy at Hillsborough and the subsequent hysteria. (A4-20t)

★★★★★

WHITEWALL OF SOUND #5 ($3 from PO Box 7606, Akron, OH 44306): Culture and stuff from the curious faraway land of Ohio. This includes poetry by John Bennett, a screenplay by Jeff Curtis & Karen Wardrop, an essay by Sean Wolf Hill on mansard roofs, an interview wtih Craig Bell, an an essay on bondage by Chharlotte Pressler. Stark b& w layouts here, and a lot of extras: a couple of other Ohio zines, a tape, and a 7" record (these vary in different packages) — a lot for your measly three bucks. (S-28r)

★★★★★

WHO CARES ABOUT APATHY #7 (25¢ postage from Brian, 93 Bellevue Ave., Warwick, RI 02888): Punk music coverage from someone who doesn't give a hoot about making a decent-looking product. #7 includes interviews with Sockeye and Dresden 45, plus reviews of records so obscure that I've never heard of most of them. (S-2)

★★★★★

WHOLE EARTH REVIEW #63 ($20/4 issues from PO Box 38, Sausalito, CA 94966-9924): These folks are still plugging away at various topic outside of mainstream culture. In #63 the theme is "Is the Body Obsolete?" with the AI downloaders lining up on one side and those scared or depressed by this prospect on the other. Along the way they look at cyberpunk, erotica, comic books, and even industrial supply catalogs. (S-144t)

★★★★★

WHY MILDRED SKIS #5 ($4 from Frank Kogan, 3352A 26th St., San Francisco, CA 94110): Extremely complex investigations into modern music and its theory and criticism, conducted by Frank and a batch of correspondents. They've drifted into waters where I can no longer follow, so all I can do is report that they seem to be comprehending one another as they discuss the attraction and direction of the popular. Very open to participation from anyone who cares to get involved — the question that started it all was "Why does music suck?" (S-61)

★★★★★

WIDE AWAKE #3 ($1 from PO Box 116805, Carrollton, TX 75011): A small SubGenius oriented zine of collage and reprints. #3 has one of those impossible final exams plus ludicrous clippings from various news media. They also put out WIDE AWAKE'S COMIC-ART RAG, with artwork from John E. and Wayne Branch, and WIDE AWAKE'S NUCLEAR POETRY, both of which are looking for contributions. (S-6)

★★★★★

WIMMEN PRISONERS SURVIVAL NETWORK #2 ($2 from PO Box 770, Stn. P, Toronto ONT, M5S 2Z1, CANADA): A support and news magazine for women in prison, mainly in Canada and the States. They publish news on conditions in various places, articles focusing on specific cases, and things like AIDS precautions in plain language. Lots of resources listed here, along with lists of people who could use some mail from the outside. Strong resistance to the system. (S-30t)

★★★★★

WIND #64 ($2.50 from Quentin R. Howard, RFD Route-1, Box 809K, Pikeville, KY 41501): A thick literary journal which has been with us for a long time and continues to attract a horde of strong contributors. About half each poetry and prose, it tends towards relatively traditional forms of writing, with the concentration being on strong characterization and the doings of real people. There's an occasional small-town flavor, but it's not oppressive. (D-107t)

★★★★★

WINGSPAN Winter/Spring-Summer 1989 (Donation from The Advantage Group, 220 Broadway #204, Lynnfield, MA 01940): A fast-growing journal from the men's movement — with interests ranging from rites to rights. They take an explicitly spiritual orientation towards reconnecting men with the world, and have an extensive calendar of retreats and other events. Winter is a special "sex and spirituality" issue, with plenty of thoughts on relating both carnally and otherwise. Summer opens with a section on the joys of drumming. (T-16t)

★★★★★

WIRE Vol. VIII #2-3 ($1 (?) from KCMU, Seattle, WA 98195): One of the better college radio zines I get, with much more than the usual program guide fare. #2 features the music of Girl Trouble and Eugene Chadbourne, a look at radio in Australia, and tax advice for budding musicians. #3 has Batman trivia, Pere Ubu, Throwing Muses, and the Cowboy Junkies. Looking good. (S-24t)

★★★★★

WITNESS FOR PEACE NEWSLETTER Vol. 6 #3 ($25/yr from 50 Lincoln Ave., Syracuse, NY 13204): WFP is a religiously-inspired group working to end the war in Central America, or at least to get the US to stop supporting the right-wingers there. The reportage is a mix of stories about politics here and brutality there. They also sponsor lots of visiting delegations to the region. (S-16t)

★★★★★

WITNESS TO THE BIZARRE #3 ($5 from Melinda Jaeb, PO Box 2825, Arlington St., Poughkeepsie, NY 12603): Short fantastic and horror fiction with lots of sudden twists. Melinda has put together a good crew of writers here, with strong efforts from Jana Hakes and Gene Matthews, among others, in this issue. Morsels of surprise that remind me of the electric snick of the best O'Henry stories. (D-48)

★★★★★

THE WONDERLAND TIMES Vol. 1 #1-6 ($2/5 issues from PO Box 20794, Baton Rouge, LA 70894): A mix of opinion pieces with some libertarian leanings, as evidenced in the reprinted pieces from THE FREEMAN. There's a rather mean-spirited fIREHOSE review in #2, a continuing series on growing pot, and an investigation of the effects of MDMA prohibition in #3. #5 includes a rundown on the medical benefits of cannabis. Tricia Disheroon's alternate-reality Alice covers on the first 3 issues are definitely worth getting an eyeful of. There's an amusing polemic in favor of equating utopia with a laissez-faire minimalist state in #6. (S-8r)

★★★★★

WORD BURGER #5-6 ($1 from Boris, 325 Douglass, San Francisco, CA 94114): A rantzine that tries to provoke people into thinking by making them mad. Boris dumps on hardcore types and people who hate commies and those who want the draft and other non countercultural types. There's also a selection of reprinted art and comics. Looking for more contributions. Some animal rights and music scene stuff in #6. (D-24r)

★★★★★

WORDS ON WILDERNESS June/July 1989 ($1 (?) from Dept. of Forestry, Room 207, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59801): An ecologically-oriented newsletter from a place where the wilderness experience is still very close. They present a variety of perspectives: governmental protection, Native American feelings, and ecofeminism are all represented in this issue. Lots of little boxes on the wonders of recycling dress up the pages. (T-12t)

★★★★★

WORKERS VANGUARD #480 ($7/24 issues from Spartacist Publishing Company, PO Box 1377 GPO, New York, NY 10116): The "Marxist Working-Class" paper of another of the innumerable petty Communist grouplets in this country. Their focus is on international labor news, and they make demands of the Chinese and Argentinian governments — as if anyone was listening. Most of their scorn is about evenly split between capitalists and people stupid enough to join the wrong rival commie group. (T-12t)

★★★★★

WORLD WAR 3 ILLUSTRATED #11 ($4 from PO Box 20271, Tompkins Square, New York, NY 10009): A graphically striking zine of resistance and revolution. This issue came out last fall in the wake of the Tompkins Square Park police riot, and it has some of the best coverage of the feel of the night — lots of stark comic art, words from those who were there, and minimal analysis. There are also some other causes here, like the Palestinian uprising and sexual oppression. Well worth the four bucks. (S-104t)

★★★★★

WRENCHING DEBATE GAZETTE #8 (SASE (?) from 1801 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20009): A short environmental newsletter. This issue mostly cites figures from mainstream financial magazines to show that corporations are doing well by doing evil, and suggests that grassroots organizing is needed to meet the challenge of stopping them. (S-2)

★★★★★

WRESTLING OBSERVER NEWSLETTER 4/24/89-7/17/89 ($5/4 issues from Dave Meltzer, PO Box 1228, Campbell, CA 95009-1228): Fine-print coverage of all the news from the pro wrestling circuits. The 5/1 issue looks at the state of the industry, particularly the two major promotions. May 22 runs down the list of top-grossing shows of all times, with the biggest (in Tokyo) bringing in almost $3 million, while the 5/29 issue balances this with a list of the worst pay TV wrestling shows of all times. 6/29 reports on the recent movies featuring wrestling and how they've done at the box office. (S-10r)

★★★★★

WRITERS EXCHANGE Spring 1989 ($6/4 issues from PO Box 394, Society Hill, NC 29593): These folks are gamely plugging along, but there's not really much here. They run poetry contests, print poetry and short reviews, and spread around a few bits of market news. A possible resource for writers, but there are many other choices in the field. (D-8)

★★★★★

WRITERS RESOURCE CENTER OF TOLEDO NEWSLETTER May 1989 ($20/yr from 2854 Sylvania Ave. #11, Toledo, OH 43613): A short newsletter from this support organization for local writers and poets. They publish a calendar of happenings, reviews of other periodicals, and market news for their members. Active membership in the Toledo area requires doing volunteer labor. (HL-7t)

★★★★★

YELLOW SILK #29 ($5 from PO Box 6374, Albany, CA 94706): A sensual and gentle magazine of erotica, broadly defined but tending towards the literary and the symbolic. Lots of poetry and hot paintings of couples in "Please Don't Go" clinches by Elli Crocker shape #29. There are also short stories and editor Lily Pond's own sweet personal commentary, which keeps the magazine feeling like a community project. (S-50t)

★★★★★

YHOS #47 (The Usual from Art Widner, 231 Courtney Ln., Orinda, CA 94563): A science fiction fanzine of the old school: plenty of stuff about trufen here, and a raging lettercol debate over the fringefen and what to do about them. There are also memories of Francis Towner Laney and Elmer Perdue in this issue, some notes from the recent Corflu, and a delightful Rotsler loc. (HL-35)

★★★★★

YOKO ONLY #24 ($9/6 issues from PO Box 20283, Columbus Circle Stn., New York, NY 10023): Just in case the title doesn't tip you off, this one is "A celebration of the life and works of Yoko Ono". It includes news of her current activities, notes on past collectibles, and lots of media coverage. The editor, Brian Hendel, apparently knows Yoko well enough to get lots of inside stuff, making it a very personal fan-zine. (S-18t)

★★★★★

YOUTH CONNECTION Vol. 3 #1 ($1 from 3910 Nara Dr., Florissant, MO 63033): A hardcore individualist libertarian publication that's explicitly working to convert leftist students ("Left-Anarchists are libertarians except they're still hung-up on Platonic assumptions."). Besides anti-collectivist polemic, this issue features a fascinating interview with Jan Powell, an individualist activist in Poland. (S-8t)

★★★★★

ZEENIE WEENIE ($1 (?) from Lew Brickhate, PO Box 193, River Forest, IL 60305): A somewhat incoherent set of diatribes on society and music. Lew has some good things to say about GG Allin, some bad things to say about the sixties underground, and some OK things to say about the current scene. Includes collage, political thoughts, and a scurrilous imaginary Dan Quayle interview. (S-12)

★★★★★

ZENDIK FARM about May '89 ($10/yr from Cary Roberts, Zendik Farm, 1431 Tierra Del Sol Rd., Boulevard, CA 92005): A magazine of opposition to the "DeathCulture". These folks do more than just sit on their ass; they've started their own tribe on 75 acres of land and are learning how to cooperate. Meanwhile, for those of us who can't be there, they publish this, full of inspirational letters, animal rights, anarcho-tribalism, and other fun stuff. (S-72r)

★★★★★

ZERO HOUR #2 ($3 from PO Box 766, Seattle, WA 98111): Despite its supermarket-tabloid layout and special issue on addiction, this one is a pretty radical read. Stunning graphics surround articles on everything from glue-sniffing to television. There's an interview with a junkie, a list of famous addicts, the lowdown on government drug-dealing, and even some bits of music coverage. Definitely an attention-getter. (T-35)

★★★★★

ZIP CODE #1 ($5 *CASH* from Steve Wicks, 39 Banbury Close, Ladybridge Drive, West Hunsbury, Northampton, NN4 9UA, ENGLAND): That price includes airmail shipping, so it's a decent deal. This music mag sports a wide-open desktop published look and concentrates on bands they feel are doing something positive, as opposed to selling out. In #1 this includes Green on Red, Pixies, Filipinos, Dharma Bums, and more. There's also a fairly extensive book review section. (A4-28t)

★★★★★

Z MISCELLANEOUS Vol. 3 #1-2 ($4 from PO Box 20041, New York, NY 10028): This litmag gives you a lot of words for the buck; it's bigger than some phone books I've seen. Inside are a wide mix of stories and poems (and now some comics, thanks to Ace Backwords and Gene Mahoney). Laurel Speer contributes a "LitScene" column of criticism, while a few folks chime in with humor or non-fiction. Something for many tastes here, though the sheer variety guarantees that much of the work will leave any given reviewer cold. Little bonuses like pamphlets and pens come with every issue too. (S-102)

★★★★★

ZVORTYL Vol. 1 #1 ($10 for 12 issues from PO Box 80187, Phoenix, AZ 85060): "Enlightenment for Party Animals" in a garish aqua and lavender package. Johnny Goo-Roo (the "Ruder Buddha") is ready to sell you enlightenment because it feels good, along with beach towels, t-shirts, and party glasses. New Age merchandising run hilariously amok. (S-4t)

★★★★★

ZZZZZYXYZ! #1 (50¢ from Jeff Curtis,PO Box 6643, Cleveland, OH 44101): A minizine by the artist for this FF's cover, with a title that's a successful bid to be last in the list. It alternates art and texts, with the former being intriguing portraits and the latter bizarre rants. Speculations on fate, sunlight, and stupidity are mixed up in here. (M-8)

PAMPHLETS

★★★★★

I'm not yet 100% sure what the distinctions are between zines, pamphlets, and books. But these are things that are not part of periodical series, yet don't have the permanent feeling of books. I may reorganize this a bit next issue, but for now here's a batch of pamphlets, booklets, and other small one-off productions for your enjoyment.

ABLATIVE PRESS

This is the brainchild of Johnny Alucard, who ran across FF in **HIGH WEIRDNESS BY MAIL** and sent me a stack of his own high weirdness. These items are all available from him at PO Box 831321, Richardson, TX 75083-1321. The graphic production here deserves a word; they're lovingly assembled, with neat collages and bizarre illustrations as demanded by the written contents. You should probably throw in some postage on at least the smaller items.

•**ALKAHEST** ($1): The story of a hitchhiker who runs across a driver with a potent brew to share, and their trip through a twisted, mutated version of oppressive industrial reality. A mindbender. (D-16)

•**BIZARRE WORLD WEEKLY** (10¢): A series of minipamphlets with covers resembling supermarket tabloids. "TV Ate My Soul!" and "The Secret of Life!" are pretty self-explanatory, while "Birth Death and Fun!" is really, in disguise, a partial explanation of the entire Ablative Press idea. (M-4)

•**THE TREFOIL TRIANGULATION** ($1): A contribution to the Jerry Cornelius cycle of rather obtuse stories begun years ago by Michael Moorcock. This one fits with the genre perfectly, featuring random violence, enigmatic actions, and shock-value. I liked it. (D-16t)

•**McLUHAN & BURROUGHS CUT-UP** (75¢): Actually the first Ablative production, this one demonstrates the cut-up method of introducing spontaneity into prose by examining its results on two texts by Burroughs and two by McLuhan (one of which, to add another level, is *about* Burroughs' use of the method). (D-12)

•**A PERSONAL MYTHOLOGY** (50¢): This one is primarily John's drawings rather than text, featuring a number of the most potent living symbols that live inside of his head, including the Ink Golem, the Muse of Sex and Violence, and the Angry Plutonium God. I think he's on to something. (D-8)

•**RADIUM SKULL COMIX** (25¢): A rather skeletal ghost discourses on the nature of intelligence and experience. Bizarre. (S-2)

★★★★★

ALPHABET OMEGABET ($2 from Jim Blanchard, PO Box 20321, Seattle, WA 98102): A new picture alphabet drawn by Vince Rancid and Levent Isik, featuring the eco-death of the planet and man's inhumanity to man. "G" for example, is a pig with a scythe, captioned "When Generals play/we all must pay", while "P" has an octopoid critter and "Got PCB's/Up to our knees". Gruesome art, gruesome concept. Each of the letters is available on T-shirts too. (HL-28)

★★★★★

ALTERED SPACES ($3 *CASH* from Scott Groce, 229 Conger, Mesquite, TX 75150): The artist describes this booklet of images as "right brain visual haiku", and that's at least as good as I could do. Scott draws with an economy of line, concentrating more on space than objects, to provide fascinating snapshots of telephone poles and tables, as well as imaginary scenery and a curious toking character. (M-48)

★★★★★

ANGEL WITH A CRIMINAL KISS ($3.95 gtom Primal Publishing, 107 Brighton Ave., Allston, MA 02134): 19 short shorts from Jeri Cain Rossi, who portrays a world that leaves the reader shaking. This is the underbelly of the city, with sex and death (sometimes together), fast driving, loud parties, dangerous drugs, and people who know their lives are going to hell and mostly don't care. It leaves a bad taste behind, but there's also a paradoxical feeling of exhilaration from seeing the characters brave enough to behave in ways most of us only dream of. (D-45t)

★★★★★

BAD, SAD, AND UGLY (50¢ (?) from Life Is A Joke, 2288 Hawk, Simi Valley, CA 93065): A collection of morbid art, poems, and prose by Joe Franke. Disturbing stuff here, including a poem about a hate-hate relationship between a man and his dog and an open-ended picture of a homeless man. (M-8t)

★★★★★

THE BEST OF HOUSEWIFE-WRITER'S FORUM 1988 ($4 from Deborah Haeseler, PO Box 1518, Lafayette, CA 94549): A charming anthology of short humor and fiction written by housewives (or, in at least one case, a househusband). I thought the humor came out better on the whole than the serious stuff; in particular Debra K. Gaskill's "I Was An Over-Organizer" struck a strong chord with my own life. Lots of good stuff here, and no chaff. (D-28t)

★★★★★

BIARCHY (One stamp from Mermaid Press, PO Box 183, Vermilion, OH 44089): A pamphlet by Allen Thornton, proposing and arguing for a new political system: biarchy. The idea is to subject the government to the same market pressures for efficiency as industry, by putting two governments into power and letting them compete for tax dollars. Allen makes some cogent points along the way, and seems eminently reasonable. (D-8r)

★★★★★

THE BLACK PAGES ($2 (?) from 312-825 Granville St., Vancouver, BC V6Z 1K9, CANADA): A "Leisure Spending Guide" to Vancouver. This has the look of a local freebie, which means they may not want to hassle with mail orders, but if you're going to be in the area you should try to score a copy. Besides clothing stores and hair cutters, they list bookstores and local magazines and places to hang out and good greasy spoons. Illustrated with a whole raft of avant-garde graphics too. (D-100t)

★★★★★

BRIEF ETERNITIES ($2 (?) from PhotoStatic, 911 N. Dodge St., Iowa City, IA 52245): A collection of texts and collages by Tom Hibbard, a sort of modern-day surrealist. I find this sort of work maddening yet fascinating; it seems to make perfect sense until you wonder what that sense is, then it becomes apparent that Hibbard's writing reveals only part of a large tapestry, the major sections of which are never pictured. Hypnotic but baffling. (D-44t)

★★★★★

BRONX ZEN ($4 from The Academic & Arts Press, PO Box 1621, Pueblo, CO 81002): A chapbook by Joel Scherzer that doesn't fit well into any genre, but it's certainly a great piece of literature. There's 12 short (1-2 page) chapters sketching a fictional account of a Buddhist Monastery in the Bronx. The main plot elements involve the chief monk, Vinnie, and his student Joey. Scherzer pens an absolutely hilarious story, with special attention to the NYC-style *koans*. For the religious, the irreligious, and the apathetic alike. (D-24) (pj)

★★★★★

THE CAT Z ($9.95 [no personal checks] from Thomas W. Ryan, PO Box 2537, New Zmyrna Beach, FL 32070): This is a rambling and somewhat disjointed account of Ryan's experiences as a Air Force maintenance crew chief during the Vietnam War. His apparent reason for publishing is to reveal that we were supplying weapons to the enemy via CIA plane flights. He offers a selection of documentation that don't bear on this too well, including his own discharge hearing showing he was diagnosed as schizophrenic while on the job. Very curious but seemingly pointless. (S-68)

★★★★★

CHE SARA SARA (Available for "interesting swaps" from The Herculaneum Press, BM Utopia, London, WC1N 3XX, ENGLAND): An essay by Joel Biroco (also printed by him in a rather nice letterpress limited edition). Those used to his Thelemic works in **KAOS** will be ill-prepared for this gentle exploration of the linkages between happiness, hope, and melancholia as excuses for living. An anomaly, but a fine one. (D-8t)

★★★★★

COLD (65¢ SASE from Roger Dixon, PO Box 124, Westfield, VT 05874): A jampacked combination of collage and information, with lots of sources to dig into the underground. You've read about many of them here, but Roger is also into monkeywrenching, citizens' chemistry, and farm disclosures, among other outre subjects. Excellent for reading in small chunks and chuckling over or getting galvanized by. A bargain. Roger is also looking for work on an organic soy farm if anyone can help with that. (HS-60r)

★★★★★

CONCOURSE FOR THE MIRAGE ($1 (?) from Joseph A. Uphoff, Jr., 1025 Garner St. #18, Coloroado Springs, CO 80905): More screwball writings from Uphoff. This time he has combined his usual mathematical symbols with a series of scientific words to produce "The Action Ensemble Sixth Complete Table". It makes as little sense as the rest of his works. (S-10r)

★★★★★

DANSE MACABRE ($2.50 from Eileen Arnow, 66 Edna Ave., Levittown, NY 11756): Another morbid little booklet from Eileen Arnow. Drawn in her usual clear crisp style, this one updates the classic "death in the midst of life theme" to the modern world, putting skeletal figures at a cocktail party, in the school lunch room, behind a televangelist, and so on. Just the thing for death rockers. (D-16)

★★★★★

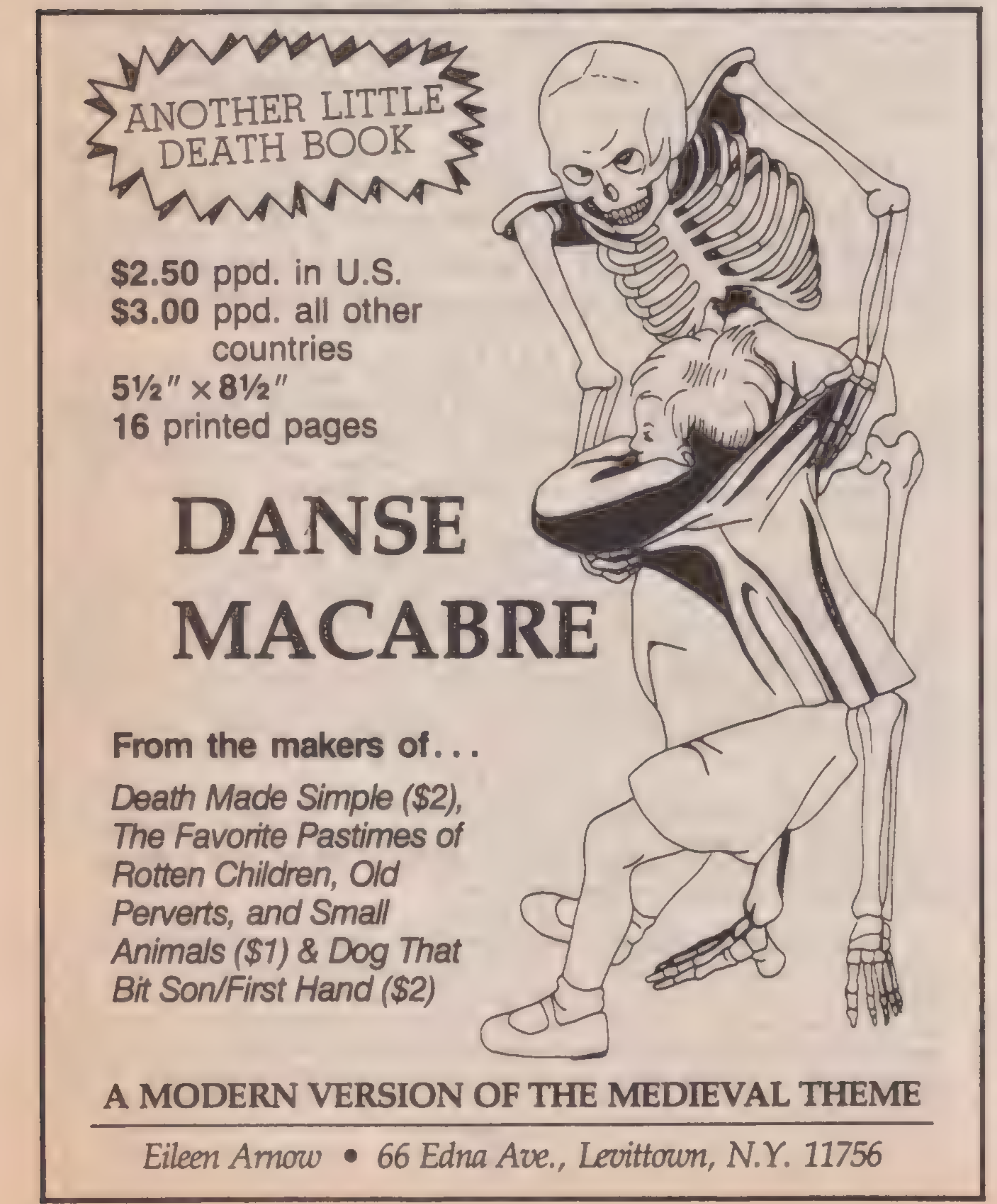
DARWIN WAS WRONG: ELVIS IS THE PROOF ($3 from Frank Thomson, Route 3 Box 334, Wilkesboro, NC 28697): A collection of enigmatic images from bits of the non-major media: psychic advertisements blown up to a full page, smalltown newspaper advice to teens, supermarket tabloid Elvis and Hitler pictures. There's also a stripper who runs an art gallery and a bit on Van Gogh's lack of marketing prowess. Another brick in society's wall of insanity. (S-24)

★★★★★

DICT: A BRIDGE ($6 from Xexoxial Endarchy, 1341 Williamson, Madison, WI 53703): A book by Crag Hill, made by taking a large dictionary and leaving out the great majority of it to arrive at something like a minimal poetic rendering of the English language. Some of the selections are especially apt, like "journalist a mass". This definition recalls for me the groupthink of the major media. Others, like "meat to be wet" are less obvious. Also available in hand-printed hardcover for $13.50. (HL-40t)

★★★★★

DOKTOR FISHMONGER'S COLORING BOOK ($20 *CASH* from Fishmonger Grafix Studios, 25 Grant St., Cambridge, MA 02138): The reason for the hefty price tag is that this entire book is reproduced by color photocopy to do justice to the striking art it contains. These are some of Fishmonger's best graphics ever; the color adds a whole new excitement to his work, making the technological mystical collages more exciting than ever. This is hand-tinting rather than natural color (except for a page or two of experiments) and very spiffy indeed. A limited signed edition of 100 is projected. (S-15)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★★★★★

EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT ANARCHISM, BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK ($2.50 from Libertarian Book Club, 339 Lafayette St. #202, New York, NY 10012): An attractive little introductory anarchist pamphlet produced in Great Britain. It tackles the usual objections (like "Who's going to take out the trash?") and introduces some of the main streams of anarchist thought without plugging any one as the way to The Revolution. Instead, they emphasize anarchist thinking in everyday life, from the family to the school to the workplace, suggesting actions that one can take to get the ball rolling. A booklist is provided for further reference. (A5-32t)

★★★★★

FACE ($1 from PO Box 21944, Columbus, OH 432221-0944): "The Alchemy of faces". What that works out to be is a collection of progressively-distorted photocopies of someone's face, concentrating on the nose and mouth. A signed and numbered limited edition of 20, of which I have #13, so you'd better hurry if you want one.(S-15)

★★★★★

FIGHTING CHANCE (Donation from PO Box 1279, Cave Junction, OR 97523): This is a product of a "non-profit civil defense effort" from folks who think we need to be preparing for nuclear war now and not listening to anti-nuke propagandists. They argue that nuclear winter is a sham, that civil defense is a reasonable goal, and that we ought not give any more technology to the Russians. Comes with enough references not to be dismissed out of hand. (S-16t)

★★★★★

FRIENDS OF AMERICAN LIVING ($5 from American Living Press, PO Box 901, Allston, MA 02134): A collection of full-page art from the underground network: collages, mail art, drawings, letters in imaginary languages, and so on. It's all printed on a heavy textured stock and perfect-bound in a stenciled cover. Contributors include Schwind, Miskowski, Burnt Raisins, Winkler, Malok, Xexoxial Endarchy, and many more. (S-47)

★★★★★

FUNTIME ($2 from Kevin Mitchell, 6907 Barry Rd., Tampa, FL 33634): More fantastic stipple art from Kevin. Many of the pieces here are sexually explicit; some are simply fantastic; others descend into bondage and violence. Ad the publisher's blurb says, "cheap thrills". (D-40)

★★★★★

GENERAL JARUZELSKI'S SUNGLASSES (£2 from Malice Aforethought Press, 328 Brettenham Road, London E17, UK): A pamphlet by Ellis Sharp, exploring the sunglasses mania of one of the more famous dictators of our kind. I would class this as a false biography of Jaruzelski, as Sharp appears to make up the facts as he goes along. It all makes good poetic, but not historical, sense. The form of a scholarly article camouflages a snickering writer. (A5-24)

★★★★★

GREAT MICE FEATS AND LEGS ($3 (?) from Maga, PO Box 6704, Station A, Toronto, ONT, M5W 1X5, CANADA): This one is labelled on the bag holding it as "A Maga feed'n read". In the bag there is a booklet, along with cedar chips and mouse food. The booklet has a textured cover and alternates printed pages of mice procreating with transparent pages containing a hand-lettered rant/poem. An enigmatic art object, probably issued in a strictly limited edition. (M-22 & stuff)

★★★★★

THE GUIDE TO COMICS COLLECTION (On Request from 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990): The fourth edition of this handy reference from the publishers of COMIC BUYER'S GUIDE. It includes a short history and chronology of comics, notes on comics fandom, a glossary of terms, and a photo guide to grading comics. A nice introduction to the field. (D-28t)

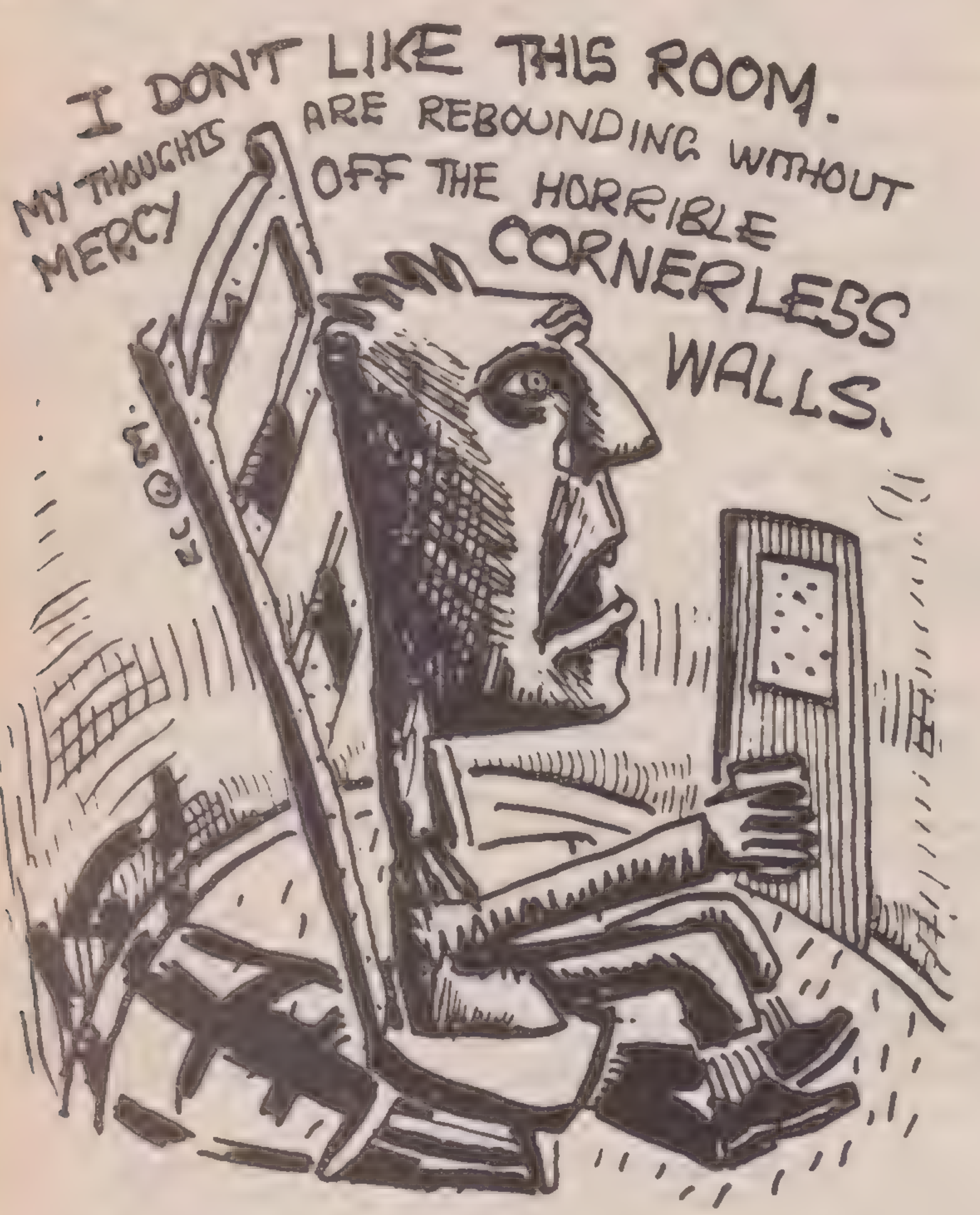
★★★★★

A GUIDE THROUGH THE WORLDS OF ROBERT A. HEINLEIN ($5.95 from Gryphon Publications, PO Box 209, Brooklyn, NY 11228-0209): By J. Lincoln Thorner, this is basically a chronological appreciation of Heinlein's writings. He takes the consensus view of Heinlein's career: early brilliance, sustained peak, deterioration starting with I WILL FEAR NO EVIL. While I think he's wrong about some of the "real-world" connections of these works (cryonic suspension is not just a fad that's gone, and I doubt that Heinlein invented the mass-driver) he does a good job of summarizing the fiction. I've read just about all of Heinlein's books, but I enjoyed this essay anyhow; it got me to remembering a lot of fun I'd had reading them. (D-48r)

★★★★★

THE HOLY BOOKS OF THE DEVAS ($4 (?) from Rowan Tree Publications, PO Box 8814, Minneapolis, MN 55408): Written by Paul Beyerl of THE UNICORN, this is "an Herball for the Aquarian Age". Rather than a set of recipes for healing with vegetable matter, it's a set of myths and astrological correspondences designed to knit together herbal lore into a deeper pattern. Beyerl also gives a longish "Ritual of Meditation for Communion With the Herbe Devas", which he claims as a translation from

"The Holy Books of the Devas". All hand-printed and illustrated by Prairie Jackson. (D-48)


I DON'T LIKE THIS ROOM.
MY THOUGHTS ARE REBOUNDING WITHOUT MERCY OFF THE HORRIBLE CORNERLESS WALLS.

★★★★★

HOW TO DO MAGIC WITH MIRRORS AND OTHER FICTION (£1 plus postage from Hilary Hayes, BCM Omentide, London WC1n 3XX, ENGLAND): Three short stories by Hilary with a rather odd feel to them. The title cut is certainly the oddest, a tale of a man who deliberately sets out to destroy the masks of his self and in so doing comes into an odd sort of enlightenment. Also of note is "Fool's Knot — Interlude", a story-within-a-story which I for one found quite captivating. Very nice style to this writing. (A5-16r)

★★★★★

THE HUMAN TRINITY (45¢ SASE from Jason Walters, 526 Haight St., San Francisco, CA 94117): An examination of spiritual growth and change in the modern world. Jason traces his own progression through the Dark Night of the Soul to a more blissful existence, and sets out what happened in intuitively rational terms — truths perceived through concentration. It's fascinating and seems to hang together pretty well. The human trinity, by the way, is body, mind, and soul; they lead him to zen, anarchism, and personal identity. (D-28r)

★★★★★

IF THE WIND WERE COLORED ($2 from Shattered Wig, 523 E. 38th St., Baltimore, MD 21218): A chapbook by Nathan A. Long, filled with short first-person vignettes. The unnamed narrator shifts identities frequently: farmer, child, bear, earth, water. Through it all he describes scenes which, based on rural reality, change into flights of illusion. Quite fascinating stuff. (D-52r)

★★★★★

THE ILLUSION OF REALITY ($1 (?) from Score Publications, 491 Mandana Blvd. #3, Oakland, CA 94610): "An interview with Dick Higgins by Harry Polkinhorn". Higgins is a pattern poet and otherwise avant-garde artist; Polkinhorn is into similar experimental work. Their talk covers the history and geography of pattern poetry, the differing scenes in Europe and America, and diverse other topics. (S-14t)

★★★★★

AN INTRODUCTION TO FREE EARTH (25¢ from PO Box 7075, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677): Another in a series of Marc Ely-Chaitlin's explanations of his system for attaining personal freedom through declaring one's household sovereign. This includes a basic outline of his ideas, common questions and answers ("Generally, the Territorial Government's authority is deemed superior to the authority of all nation-state officials." — try telling that to a cop!) and the forms for joining his project. (HL-12r)

★★★★★

JOE ($5 from Random Art Transfer, 504 W. 24th #48, Austin, TX 78705): A booklet of short-short stories (most under 1 page) by David Jewell, whose LIZARDS AGAIN is still remembered fondly around the FF offices. Joe — no last name — is the central figure in all of these stories, a sort of existential Everyman figure, who wanders through a life of bowling and work and putt putt golf and bars and swimming, looking for meaning. I don't think he finds any, but you might dredge something else out of this attractive and inscrutable chapbook. (D-54t)

★★★★★

KENNETH PATCHEN LITERARY FESTIVAL CATALOG ($6 from Trumbull Art Gallery, PO Box 888, Warren, OH 44482): Patchen, well-known poet, was born in Warren; this catalog goes with an exhibit from his archives last year. It's got plenty of remembrances of the poet, tributes from Ferlinghetti, Dennis Brutus, and others, a chronology of his principle works, and excerpts from his high school yearbook. There's also reproductions of a bunch of his picture poems, including six in full color on the cover. A nice literary memorial. (S-40t)

★★★★★

LEGEND OF THE GREAT DISMAL MAROONS ($2 from James Koehnline, 7750 Long Ave., Skokie, IL 60077): A booklet of collage and words by James Koehnline, recounting the lost history of the anti-masonic maroons of the Great Dismal Swamp on the North Carolina/Virginia border. His history seems good — ample documentation is provided — and his making of it into a legend for free men to stand by works as well. Nice woodcut collages, excellent rap-rhythmed words. A production well worth looking at for the anarchist or true counterculture type in search of roots. (D-40)

★★★★★

LIBERATION FROM MONEY AND THE CROSS (Donation from Friends, Box 83, 669 00 Deje, SWEDEN): A pamphlet by Boudewijn Wegerif on various issues relating to the international credit system, which he finds directly contrary to the teachings of Jesus. It's a mix of visionary (probably heretical) Catholicism, predictions of the coming economic collapse, and horrified discussion of financial inequities around the world. Hard to know what to make of this. (A4-44r)

★★★★★

LIVING ON A DESERT ISLAND (Cash/stamps donation from Oyster Publications, 723 N. Highland Ave., Arlington Heights, IL 60004): Four short pieces by Yurus Paradox, exploring relationships and life in a rambling, disjointed style. They're all hand-printed with illustrations, and have a very personal aura about them. Thoughts about why people are the way they are, and why none of it makes sense. (M-20)

★★★★★

THE MANNIKIN CYPHER ($5 from Bomb Shelter Propaganda, PO Box 12268, Seattle, WA 98102): A collection of collages and "prose poems" by Thomas Wiloch. I find the collages unexceptional, but the words are wonderful. In Wiloch's mind the world comes alive in strange ways, breathing or drinking is transformed into a magical act, and nothing is as it seems. Dozens of short pieces to get you scratching your head. (M-40t)

★★★★★

THE MANY WORLDS OF DUANE RIMEL ($3 from Ralph E. Vaughan, 353 Oxford St., Chula Vista, CA 92011): Rimel was active in fantasy fandom in the 1930s and a correspondent of HP Lovecraftr, who obviously influenced his writing. This is a collection of poems, short stories and artwork from that period. It includes a couple of tales about the degenerate town of Hampdon and some overblown but fun poetry including "Dreams of Yith" with a very Lovecraftian flavor. (D-40)

★★★★★

MASOCHISTS GO TO HEAVEN (45¢ SASE from Jason Walters, 526 Haight St., San Francisco, CA 94117): Five short stories by Jason, exploring the attraction and history of masochism. He apparently sees it as a route to enlightenment in our Judeo-Christian soaked culture, and he may be right. Personally, I found most of this somewhere between distressing and revolting. (M-23r)

★★★★★

MISINFORMATION AND MANIPULATION ($2 from Joe Peacott, B.A.D. Brigade, PO Box 1323, Cambridge, MA 02238): This one is by Joe, and subtitled "An Anarchist Critique of the Politics of AIDS". In it he argues that the risk of contracting AIDS is being exaggerated, and that information about relatively safe sex activities is being suppressed, to further anti-sex and anti-gay agendas. In addition, he makes a case for the elimination of government funding and regulation of medical research. A solid work with lots of references and a refreshing viewpoint. (D-27t)

★★★★★

MUMBLES AFFORDABLES (SASE from PO Box 8312, Wichita, KS 67208): More little booklets to be collected or passed on — the price is right. This quarter's dose of oddness includes ELVIS' GHOST, with a variety of religious and sacrilegious art and text. (D-4r)

★★★★★

NOR MAD BUT NEARLY HUMAN (SASE from Peter Primal, PO Box 29145, Philadelphia, PA 19127): A collection of Peter's somewhat apocalyptic writings. He tells snippets of his unlikely past, discusses the need to abandon civilization and get back to something more natural, and talks about the Imago, a new mental organ that evolved like mad in the 60s. A weird mixture of what seems to be revelation and what seems to be utter fantasy. (D-16r)

★★★★★

NUH and UH ($1.50 (?) from Maga Publications, PO Box 6704, Stn. A, Toronto, ONT M5W 1X5, CANADA): NUH is a collection of drawings stamped with heavy red international negation slashed circles. No cyclops, no sticking forks in your head, no dogs on the front of the bicycle, no this, no that. UH features exactly the same drawings, but here they are overstamped with green circles, no slashes — the "go ahead" sign. An arty comment on the restrictions of modern life? (D-28)

★★★★★

OPEN UP AND BLEED TO DEATH ($2 from Torky Koenings, PO Box 4016, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315): A collection of speed-powered rants from a guy who knows he's going nuts and chooses to do it in the middle of the fanzine community. He's woven this paranoid fantasy heavily featuring folks like Lydia Lunch and Al Flipside (I even feature as a bit player myself) and keeps trying to wrestle it to paper. Also thoughts on punk music, suicide, alienation, childraising, and more. Bizarre. (D-52r)

★★★★★

POLY NOISE ($1 from Lloyd Dunn, 911 N. Dodge St., Iowa City, IA 52245): A collaborative effort from Amendant Hardiker and Miekal And. In a duller world this might be taken as a manifesto for the whole creative underground; utilizing the cut-up and distraction techniques it suggests in a reflexive manner makes it something more. An exploration of the various possibilities of noise, sound, hypermedia and personal contact to bring about some sort of sweeping change in our consciousness, with a complex origami assemblage creating a visual tower of Babel as the booklet is read. (M-20t)

★★★★★

PRELUDE TO BURN/DROP/COP OUT (1 IRC from Cerebral Shorts, 5/143 Glenhuntly Road, Elwood 3184, AUSTRALIA): A small pamphlet of what appears to be automatic writing or cut-up text — anyhow, something produced by unusual means. The whole is overlaid by computer graphics which, after some puzzling, spell out "My mouth moves, The story changes..." A curious experioddical artifact. (D-10t)

★★★★★

RISQUER SA VIE N'EST PAS SURVIVRE ($2 from Ensemble Vide, BP12, 33031 Bdx, FRANCE): A mail-artish collage, with images ranging from the prehistoric to the postmodern. Bits of French text are dropped in here and there, between the images of people being badgered by technology. (M-16)

★★★★★

A ROUGH DRAFT RE: COLLABORATION ($2.50 from Burning Press, PO Box 18817, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118): Luigi — head honcho at Burning Press — is interested in exploring the dynamics of collaboration in experimental literature. So he invited a bunch of people to help write this booklet, which is being refined in successive drafts. The current authors include Al Ackerman, Crag Hill, John Eberly, Miekal And & Liz Was, Bob Grumman, John Bennett and others; more participants are invited. (D-44r)

★★★★★

RUSSIA, ISRAEL AND THE UNITED STATES (50¢ from Church of the Creator, PO Box 400, Otto, NC 28763): Some of the most vile jew-hating sludge I've encountered in a long time. This little pamphlet reveals that the Communist revolution in Russia, and similar takeovers later, were financed by the US as part of a "Jewish-Communinst-Marxist-Zionist" plot. The CIA is implicated as a Jewish front too. One major problem here: if the jews were as powerful and evil as the author says, they would have silenced this bozo long ago. (D-16t)

★★★★★

THE SECRET ALBUM OF AMERICA ($5 from Xexoxial Editions, 1341 Williamson St., Madison, WI 53703): A reissue of classic collages by the one and only Joe Schwind. These images at first glance seem to be a meaningless jumble, but gradually the patterns emerge, and the book can be seen as a metaphorical shopping trip through a consumerist society. Disturbing images of guns and pipes appear frequently, along with subliminal sex and commands to buy the products that are attacking in order to regain peace of mind. (D-52)

★★★★★

SKETCHBOOKS 1980-1989 (Free for a sample of your own artwork from Edgar "Bolt" Upright, 104 W. Main St. #4, Carrboro, NC 27510): A rather egocentric publication: page upon page of Bolt's rough art. But it's free (to artists, at least) while supplies last, and definitely worth having even if you have to persuade him to take money instead. Take a look at his work in older FFs and you can see what you might be missing. He also has collages, stickers, pamphlets and posters available for swaps. (S-60)

★★★★★

SORTING ($1 (?) from Denise Dee, 29A Guy Pl., San Francisco, CA 94105): A short prose picture by Denise, part of her UNION OF OPPOSITES series. This one starts off with a childhood memory of her father and progresses to a current Father's Day phone conversation. Along the way she pulls together scattered thoughts about being connected to and comfortable with people. (D-3)

★★★★★

STUN GUN ENEMA ($2.95 from Jake Berry, c/o Abscond, 2251 Helton Dr. #N-7, Florence, AL 35630): A mini-chapbook written by Chris Winkler. This is prose to make your head explode, written with the same deep structure as any other essay, but then cut up (probably mentally) and muddled with words for sounds. "Diversified monolithic deprivation express sanctuary pituitary gland hamburgers" is a fair sample. There even seems to be a plot, though I can't tell you what it might be. (M-47t)

★★★★★

TALES OF HOON (£2 (?) from Malice Aforethought Press, 328 Brettenham Road, London E17, UK): More maddening texts from Frank Key, together with "three maps & an exciting diagram", the latter folding out of the inside back cover. Hoon is a fantastic land, full of alphabetical preoccupations and florid prose describing heroic exploits — rather like a NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC report written by the inmates of an asylum. Great fun. (A5-36)

★★★★★

THE TRIAL ($2 from Mark Hodges, PO Box 915, Muskegon, MI 49443-0915): A chapbook with a lesson to it, a modern-day parable. It centers around a trial for a new heinous crime, and people's reactions to it. The writing is a bit hackneyed in spots ("faceless masses"), but it serves to get the author's point across. An afterword gives a quick pitch for Christianity. (D-29r)

★★★★★

TRIUMPH DE VILLE: A JOURNAL OF FASCISM AND CADILLACS ("Price: Magazine Article about Adolf Hitler" from X. Sharks DeSpot, 2225 Montego Dr., Lansing, MI 48912): A single page of introductory musings about whether a free market exists in an era of industrial and business power, followed by a reprinted article about the Cadillac Seville and a biographical summary on Hitler. This may be the first zine ever created just to have something reviewed in an issue of FACTSHEET FIVE. (S-6)

★★★★★

TRUE LOVE: ASTROLOGICAL PRINCIPLES ($3.50 from Sharon Leighton, PO Box 394, Montague, PEI, C0A 1R0, CANADA): A booklet by Savannah Rose that sets out in detail how to interpret a pair of astrological charts to determine whether there is the potential for true love between the people charted. She runs down each possibly important relationship (Sun-Sun, Sun-Moon, etc.), asking pointed questions about relationships and indicating what may be most favorable. Might work as a questionnaire for evaluating relationships even if you don't believe in astrology. (D-36)

★★★★★

WAKEST AIMS? KIND LAW & ZEAL! ($3 (?) from PhotoStatic, 911 N. Dodge St., Iowa City, IA 52245): A very challenging booklet of experioddica. The introduction by Amendant Hardiker (halfway through) assures us that it is full of palindromes & anagrams (indeed, most of the title anagrams the authors' names, for this is by Miekal And & Liz Was) — with the result that the text reads like the clues to a British crossword puzzle. This is combined with computer graphics, glyphic drawings, new typefaces, and altered photographs to form a work which looks rich in meaning but is too challenging for all but a few to extract the meaning from. Drive your bridge club crazy by leaving this on the coffee table. (HL-40t)

★★★★★

WILD MOUNTAIN ($1 from Montana Wilderness Association, PO Box 635, Helena, MT 59624): This is a special publication of the MWA, written by Thomas Power, chair of the Economics Department at the University of Montana. He tackles the sticky question of the relative economic impacts of

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wilderness and logging on the people who live by these activities, and concludes that wilderness is good for the economy. He goes a long way to demolish some of the stupid arguments of the logging companies with respectable academic analysis. (S-12t)

★★★★★

YOU ARE A BUG (24¢ *CASH* from Rev. Dr. Neon Fleshbiscuit, PO Box 8717, Knoxville, TN 37996-4800): An unusual religious tract in that it calls for emancipation from all organized religions without calling for the destruction of religion. Instead, Fleshbiscuit advises a personal search for truth, leading to one's own unique path to salvation. Theological study by mail is also available from the same address; $1 for the first lesson. (M-8t)

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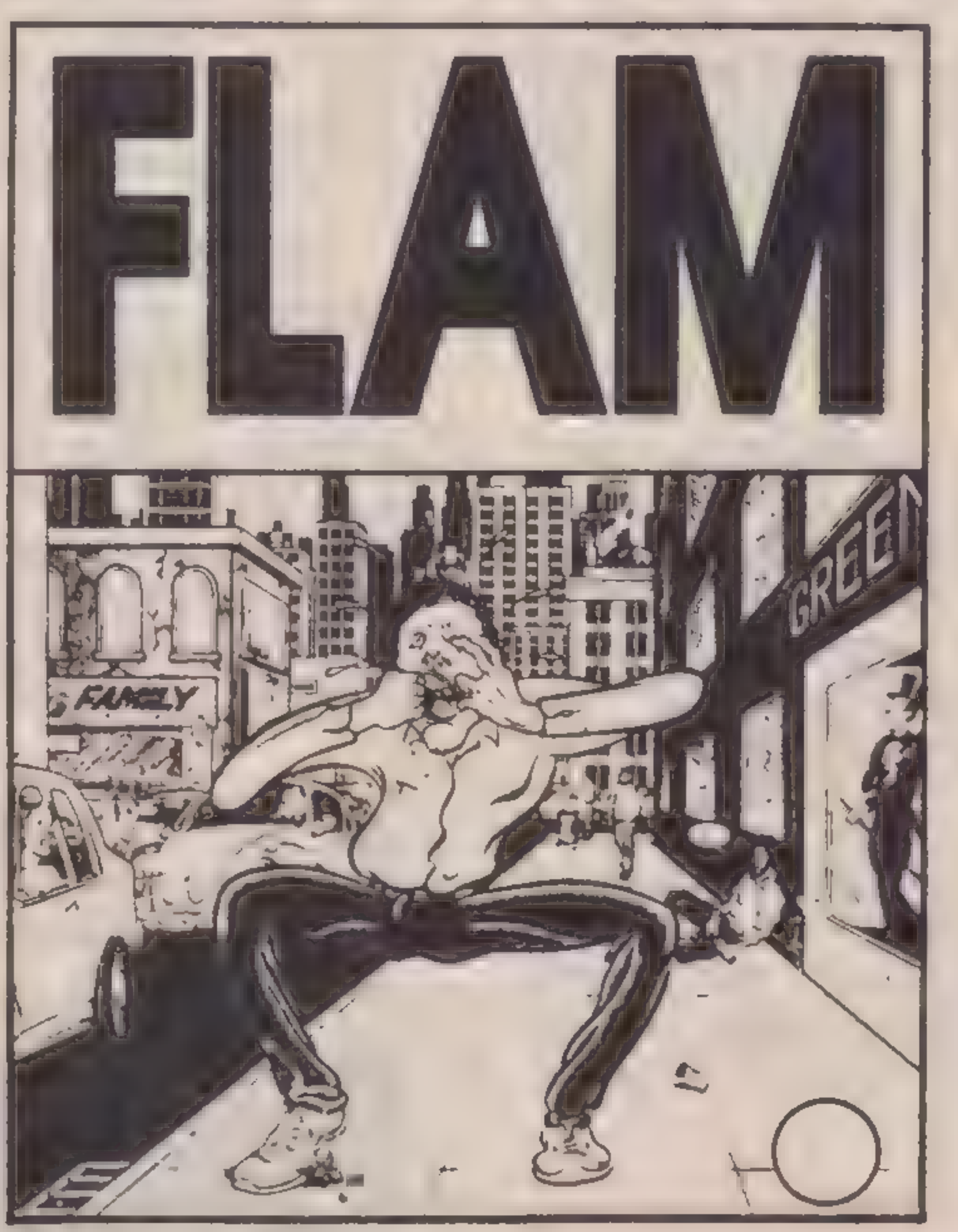

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POSSIBLY SUBVERSIVE FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS

by Kerry Wendell Thornley

* * *

When I ask myself what to do about it — there is NO ANSWER. Become a dictator so I can meet girls like the guy in the Jules Feiffer cartoon? That isn't even part of the question. Why won't everybody grow up and understand that much? As hagbard Celine says, "Rule yourselves, schmucks!" And let me fuck whoever wants to fuck me that I want to fuck (which includes nearly everybody in the last instance) and go stare at priests upon whom your accusing looks won't be wasted the way they are on me!

* * *

And find out what that nun is who says the post-revolutionary man isn't erotic and get somebody she finds irresistable to fuck her for days and days and days and days (at least five days) on end.

* * *

"If we couldn't laugh, we'd go insane." — Jimmy Buffet

Laughter, like the orgasm, is a semi-involuntary pleasurable response to the actions of another — usually, or at least basically, *laughter breaks up armoring. That's* why there are dirty jokes and burlesque comics and why puritans snigger at sex! And also why people like M______ don't see what's so funny about sexual humor — people fortunate enough to grow up without a lot of conditioning about that subject.

Of course, since crying also releases armoring, hysteria is probably the best cure for the individual — and the most dangerous for society — of all. Verily I tell you, all roads lead to Dobbs.

* * *

(1963) "Averill Harriman had recently become under secretary and Roger Hilsman head of the Far Eastern Bureau, and both favored firmness toward Diem." p. 280, VIETNAM, Stanley Karnow.

* * *

Jean Dixon would've been among the occult fronts of the Great Society Conspiracy. Wilson also called CBS Conservative Bavarian Seers. ABC — Ancient Bavarian Seers — nihilists in the tradition of Weishaupt. NBC — Nefarious Bavarian Seers — essentially "country" and Rockefeller. Knee far = he us, Bavarian conspirators. If this hypothesis is correct, then NBC is close to Dixon. If it isn't, they ain't.

* * *

Conign *pictured* in VIETNAM book in no way resembles the Second Lt. in MACS-4.

* * *

Libertarian Capitalism:
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* * *

"And remember: we don't care how you vote this November, but be sure and vote." — the Anarchist Advertising Council

* * *

SubGeniusism:
Slay Demons!
Cast Out False Prophets!
Satirize Everyone in Authority!

* * *

Comic strip blurb pasted onto picture of Rama or Krishna slaying demon: You slay me!

* * *

All this was inspired by memories of the day I met B________ in the hall at Georgia State and he asked me to help get Dean English, the Confederate Dean of Men, and Dean Thomas, the Neurotic Dean of Women, to approve the Hare Krishna's passing out *prashadam* in the student union building.

So there I was, in Dean English's office — with Dean Thomas there — them talking about the health hazards of free food and Health Department rules — listening to B________ trying to explain how, since it was sacred food, they didn't have to worry about such mundane things, me trying to confine the discussion to civil liberties, them all explaining to me that they were so tolerant that wasn't a problem, no minds meeting, anywhere in the room.

* * *

1989-75=1914...Jesse Sump (1914-1989)

* * *

One of the individuals allegedly connected with the Vietnam war conspiracy that has most eluded investigation — in terms of who he was associated with at the time — is the Soviet Ambassador to Cuba in 1963 — a close friend of Krushchev's who was also a supporter of his unification of Germany policy. Because he was arrested in Canada in the 50's as a member of the spy ring that obtained the A-Bomb for Russia, at which time he was working under the code name, "Leon", and because his Russian name is hard to remember and there is a controversy about whether it has or hasn't been changed in most library books, he is usually called "Leon". Were there direct links between Leon and Harriman and Lodge, for example? Was Leon the go-between for Castro and Huntsville Alabama? (When he is under Soviet control he's called "Leon Redbone". He or the faction of his conspiracy that isn't is called "Leon Russell". The obnoxiously persistent Leon is called "Leon Everett". Then of course there was the Leon android in Blade Runner. Then there was the second Oswald who called himself "Leon Oswald".)

Leon was obviously either involved in the assassination or the Bay of Pigs fiasco, or both, or in whatever else the assassins were protecting — the "Oz Wall", the electronic isolation and manipulation of agents, perhaps.

There is a footnote about him in **THE U-2 AFFAIR** by Ross and Wiseman.

There may have been an indication that Leon's link with Lodge was Gerald Ford. (The way Lodge just went ahead and overthrew Diem, ignoring JFK's second thoughts and cautions, indicates that Lodge realized that very soon Kennedy would no longer be a force to contend with and that he, Lodge, wouldn't have to answer to him, Kennedy — who was killed three weeks after Diem was assassinated).

So at this point I'm very interested in how Leon and von Braun and Gehlen's people were communicating, if they were, with Harriman, Bundy and Lodge, et al — the hawks in JFK's administration — whether it was personal meetings, membership in the same secret society, canted communications or electronics..

The people in New Orleans — such as, I guess, M________ and also the Gay Community, were referred to as "Southern Alabama" the last time I was through there. That may also have been their condition at the time of the assassination. Charles Cabell in CIA seems to have been unwittingly working with a mole. Hunt also claimed that at that time he was in "South Texas", according to rumor. Logically, he'd have been reporting to Cabell, whose brother Earl, mayor of Dallas, is allegedly the patron saint of the gay community — which, according to Mark Lane, became rich in stock market manipulations related to advance knowledge of Kennedy's assassination.

So the question is, what was going on over their heads? How much more did Harriman know? Where was the link with Leon? Who knew and who didn't know about the involvement of the Huntsville rocket scientists? How did what the Conspiracy calls "a small fire truck" maintain control over the "oranges" in New Orleans? How did the Wasgugspacks figure into it? Were they the control factor? (Enter, again, the house of Morgan.)

* * *

What is the relation between Morgan and Rockefeller? Between the Wasgugspacks and the Rockefellers? Between the Wasgugspacks and LBJ during the great Proletarian Cultural Revolution? (What possibilities for satire! LBJ in the Oval Office discussing Chinese politics with the likes of Fred Korth and John Connelly.) How was Dr. Lind of Polaroid connected with all of this — a CIA advisor in the U-2 project?

These are the types of questions The Conspiracy should be answering — instead of filibustering about things the **NATIONAL TATTLER** could cover just as well for 50¢ a week. Anyone that persistently avoids questions like this, the way factions linked with Tony Jackson have, eventually winds up on my shit list, no matter how much I might be attracted to their basic ideology.

Because I've got a problem to solve first, before I can devote much time to these other things and there doesn't seem any point in being surrounded day and night by informants if they aren't going to be informative about the most pressing and highest priority problem: the War Conspiracy. At this rate, by the time there are war crimes trials, all the war criminals will have died of old age.

CURMUDGEON CORNER
BY GARRY DE YOUNG
J.P. MOR GAN

TO ALL CONCERNED ABOUT CIVIL RIGHTS

It matters not your religion or political persuasion. Today we are faced with threats so severe that unless we band together we will find ourselves total captives of the computer-efficient corporate structure seeking to rule the world.

In recent months I have filed 61 lawsuits in state and federal courts citing violations of my civil rights under the 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution and under Article 1, Section 6 of the Iowa Constitution.

Very sadly, very few Americans know the history of the Republican Party, much less the background of the word Republican. Somehow they think that this means aristocracy, monarchy and fascism and thus openly and willingly embrace it. This is why there are so many fascists within the Republican Party, although I am fully aware that the Democrats also have their share.

Thomas Paine in his **RIGHTS OF MAN** explains the derivation of the word *Republican*. It comes from the Latin *Res Publica*, meaning *The Public*, or more literally, *The People*. This is where Abraham Lincoln obtained the phrase "Of The People, By The People and For The People."

The Republican party grew out of the abolition movement and Abraham Lincoln was its articulate spokesman in his famous debates with Stephen Douglas. These debates centered on two issues. The first was over the Dred Scott decision and slavery. The second issue was over money and the banking system. Lincoln and the Republicans wanted a total National control over our money while the Democrats wanted control of money in private hands. The private banking lobby won.

These several legal actions I am presently involved in trigger other legal actions (over questions of procedure, as well as content) in domino fashion and in short order one discovers that justice in America is totally unattainable for low-income people because of the expenses involved with filing fees, copies of transcripts, and the requirement that briefs submitted to the Supreme Court be printed, and of course there are lawyers' fees and it is no secret that the biggest money buys the most highly trained and most seasoned lawyer.

But that is not what I'm writing you about today. Here is what happened to me on Wednesday evening, June 20th. You may not believe it but it is true and I am in the process of taking this entire matter into federal District Court.

I enjoy riding my bicycle (in fact, I'm a biking freak, so to speak, having ridden bicycles and motorcycles most of my life) and on Wednesday I was riding my bicycle through Sioux Rapids and on the southern edge of that city is a steep hill. I was walking the bicycle up the hill when I developed severe cramps in both of my thighs. These pains were so intense that I had no choice but to go to the side of the road and lie down.

Soon a motorist stopped and asked if I needed help and I explained what had happened, that I had severe leg cramps and could not stand up. He then called the Sioux Rapid ambulance and I was taken to the Storm Lake hospital. On the way to Storm Lake the ambulance crew massaged my cramped muscles and provided excellent emotional and physical support in a cheerful and competent manner. I truly appreciated the help they gave.

When we arrived at the hospital it was a totally different scene. The atmosphere was cold and unfriendly and there were several policemen on hand.

Hardly any attention was paid to my cramps and my pointing out that I had a heart condition and that they might want this part of my medical history was totally ignored.

Now, it is no secret here in the Sixth District that I have committed myself to calling for free medical care for all citizens (and others under the jurisdiction of the United States). My opponent on the other hand is a strong proponent of supporting medical rip-offs and is rewarded for this stance through de-facto bribery through contributions to his campaign by medical practitioners endorsing his stance. It is also well known that I have filed suit against Dr. Ed Kelly, the medical examiner for Clay County, because he denied me medical care although I presented him with a Blue Cross card and a Medicare card. My contempt for the medical fraternity is also no secret due to the many letters to the editor I have written about these parasites who in any area outside of their very narrow specialty are total functional illiterates.

CALL TO REASON — An Introduction to Atheism by Mary De Young — $7.50 to Mary De Young, P.O. Box 7252, Spencer, Iowa 51301-7252.

Anyway, the moment I entered the hospital doors I was under the jurisdiction of the hospital and found myself in a situation where I was in fact incarcerated against my will.

The young snot of a doctor then began the line of crap about my having emotional problems and tried to induce me to request that I be provided with help — meaning commitment for psychiatric evaluation.

I am by nature a forceful personality and hold in absolute contempt those people who are either ignorant of injustice because they refuse to inform themselves or who are simply cowards. I classify a solid 99 percent of medical practitioners into this category and assert that their problem is one of 50 percent ignorance and 50 percent cowardice.

I also note that so-called "professionals in health care and mental shrink tanks pride themselves on not having emotions. I contend that this lack of emotions, this emotional incapacity, is a serious mental deficiency brought about by their training. I assert the same training which inures medical practitioners to others' pain at the same time inures them to social injustice.

Right now with farmers losing their farms and homes because of governmental policies and practices we see preachers and mental health opportunists colluding to "provide stress counseling". This is a charade, it is degrading, demeaning and insulting. What poor people need is *not* psychiatric counseling — what they need is money and legal representation — both of which are withheld.

Neither the clergy nor the medical fraternity offer money or legal services. On the contrary, they benefit from these conditions by charging $50 and up per hour for what I consider nothing but outright chicanery and deceit, or to put it more candidly, a line of bullshit.

Anyway, to continue the story: I told the doctor I was a Christian Scientist, which I am, and that I wanted a Christian Science practitioner. I also told him I wanted a lawyer. I told him this several times with my wife and son present as witnesses. I was denied both.

The doctor on duty has already obtained a referee from the Buena Vista (Storm Lake) court system and they were ready to commit me although I had no depression nor evidence of a violent disposition. Certainly I was angered at this violation of my civil rights and involuntary incarceration.

It was only because my wife was present that I was released into her custody, and got out of that prison for political dissenters, and so I am home today. Throughout all this I had full command of my mental faculties.

Now to the referee. When I was dismissed I discussed the matter of my civil rights with the referee. He quipped that people had too many civil rights, that he hated "homos" and that he as a bigot and proud of it. This man is a total racist, a total fascist (20 years in the military too) and if the judicial system of Iowa commissions such a man rest assured that the judges who made the appointment hold similar views — and instead of throwing away the key where someone might possibly find it, they will simply melt it down to insure its uselessness.

This Kafkaesque description is, if anything, an understatement of what I went through that night. The inquisition was simply unbelievable and the awareness of the power held by that doctor who was raised in backward Iowa and who has never been out of the state of Iowa, who has never been involved in a civil rights battle, who doesn't give one goddamn about social injustices, this impotent ignoramus holds the power to commit people he does not see as fitting into his little box of servility.

It has been my experience that Iowans are as bland as the land they live on — flat, unimaginative, ignorant, openly racist with pride in their racism, and unalterably filled with greed and cowardice.

These are not loose words and I know whereof I speak having fought discrimination in this state since moving here in 1978.

Thomas Paine had a discussion with Benjamin Franklin. Franklin said, "My home is where Freedom is." Paine replied, "My home is where Freedom is not."

Thomas Paine would be perfectly at home here in Iowa today.

I need help in this fight and I am asking for your support.

STARS ON ONE
BY ANNI ACKNER
J.P. MORGAN

Did you ever find yourself in the middle of a situation, or somehow involved in an incident, wherein suddenly you looked around, shook your head in disbelief and realized, to your great shock and chagrin, that you really, really hated yourself? I mean, *did* you?

Now, just so we understand each other, I'm not talking about the sort of thing we've all experienced, when, for instance, we wake up in the morning, stumble to the bathroom, peer into the mirror, realize, with a jolt, that, as we age, we are beginning to develop a startling resemblance to Ernest Borgnine, and, for one single, horrifying moment, wish we were nicely dead; nor do I mean that hideous little scenario in which, at a party, we make one of our patented witty remarks about the drooling idiot attempting to juggle the crudites by the buffet table, only to discover that the person to whom we have made the remark is married to said drooling idiot, and to then fervently pray that a horde of starved rats marches out of the bathroom and eats us on the spot. These are mere transitory embarassments, minor emotional inconveniences, soon forgotten, or at least repressed with a great deal of self-will and perhaps a year or two of transactional analysis, and seldom coming back to haunt us, unless it's four in the morning and we've been hitting the Buffalo wings again.

No, the kind of thing to which I am referring is the deep-rooted, intractable, *squirmy* sort of self-loathing that comes, not necessarily from anything one has done personally, but from the inescapable fact that one irrevocably belongs to a group or sub-section of humanity that is, for one reason or another, behaving in a particularly obnoxious and despicable way. As an example, there are those of us who, born, as it were, in the U.S.A., still have trouble passing those open windows when we happen to reflect upon the Viet Nam War, or the Japanese internment camps, or the slaughter of the Indians or even, for those of us with particularly delicate constitutions, the near-extinction of the California condor. Some of us of the Jewish persuasion are prone to burying our heads in the throw pillows and going all over yuccky when the subject of Israel is mentioned in polite company — though, to be fair, those of us of the Jewish persuasion are more or less trained to go all over yuccky at the drop of a guilt trip anyway. Certain men — or, anyway, Phil Donahue — suffer tremendous pangs over the plight of women in this society, whites stay up nights kicking themselves because of the condition of blacks, vegetarians shed tears of self-recrimination when they think of veal calves, and there are some songwriters, or so I'm told, who literally can't bear to leave their condos for three or four days after a radio airing of "Feelings".

It is perhaps with this last group that I feel the most aligned, for I find myself similarly afflicted. The only difference is that *my* moments of self-hatred generally come when I am standing in the lobby of a movie theatre and watching the preceding showings' audience leave, and it is obvious that they are disappointed, chagrined, unhappy and even hostile as they discuss the film on which they have just spent as much as $7.50. Of course, I can't blame myself for the actual film they have just endured — there are many, many other things about myself of which I am something less than fond, but I can, at least, still hold my head up and announce with pride that I have never had anything to do with the screenplay, direction or production of anything that has escaped from Hollywood — but I am, in however tiny a way — and it seems to be getting tinier every day — connected with the reason that many of them were trapped into seeing the movie to begin with. I am a visual arts critic.

It is an undeniable truth, for good or ill, that a hefty portion of us make our initial decisions concerning which movie to see on any given day based, in whole or part, on the opinions of that rarefied group of hearty souls we like to call Movie Critics or Reviewers or, in my case, Visual Arts Critics. Certainly there have been films that have been wildly successful despite, or even because of, what's known in the business as Bad Press — the Rocky Ouevre comes most immediately to mind — but, generally speaking, it's fairly difficult for a movie to do Really Big Box Office — another one of those whimsical business terms, this one translates as "make tons of bucks" — without at least some help from the movie critics. For one thing, most of us haven't got the time, money or patience to see every movie released, so it's a tremendous help just in terms of logistics to have someone, or a group of someones, do the initial weeding out for us, and let us know, in the most basic sense, what each film is about and whether its topic, theme and presentation are such that we would consider it suitable for our own and our families' viewing (it is not beyond the realm of possibility, in fact, that the reason certain films do well without critical acclaim is precisely because we already know what to expect before they're even released to the theatre — most of us, after all, don't need a critic to tell us about **Police Academy 5** or **Rocky IV** or **The Karate Kid III**. Whatever else you may think of these films, they have the dubious virtues of the familiar) and, for another, as a group we simply feel more comfortable liking something that other people have liked before us. No matter how intellectually reprehensible you may find this particular human trait, we tend to prefer going to doctors who have been recommended by our friends, visiting restaurants of which we have heard, and seeing films that the critics have told us they thought were worth seeing.

Well, so far, so good, so why all those sad, guilt-inducing faces in the theatre lobbies? The problem evidently isn't with outright bad reviews of downright bad films — obviously, very few people in their right minds are going to willingly flock to movies whose reviews have uniformly read "A totally atrocious exercise in cinema" or "Pointless, plotless and muddled" or "Stinks up the joint" — but with a misinterpretation of the good reviews or, more accurately, a difference in perception between what the critics actually say and what you think you hear.

Most of this is neither your fault nor the fault of the critics. The fault in many cases — if you can even call it a fault — lies in the way the critics' material is presented to the public for the people responsible for advertising the film. It goes without saying that the goal of any given studio publicity department is to present the studio's films in the best possible light, in order to guarantee the best possible returns, and, sometimes, in order to accomplish this, it becomes necessary for them to sort of er, manipulate the truth just a touch, This can be managed in two ways: The first, and best known, is simply to chop up the reviews. We've all seen this done, though we may not have realized it at the time. What happens is that Critic A says, for example, "This is not a good film! There is nothing enlightening, enjoyable or entertaining about it", then, the publicity department gets hold of the quote, and the next thing you know the ads for the movie contain the blubr: "...a good film!...enlightening, enjoyable...entertaining. Critic A". They haven't lied, exactly, they haven't added one word to what Critic A did say, but they haven't precisely told the truth, either. This is all perfectly — if not morally — legal, and very often the publicity department gets by with it because, in these fast-paced and frantic times, many people haven't the leisure to read an entire review, but instead make do with whatever information may be gleaned from the ad puffs. However, it's also one of the easiest dare-we-say-frauds to spot and to protect yourself against: the trick is that, in general, the more series of dots in an ad, the choppier the quality of the product. In other words, if you see more than one or two series of dots, and the thing reads like a good-luck telegram composed by your brother, the cheapskate, it's a pretty safe bet that the movie involved is capable of causing mutations in animal and plant life for more than 100 miles around.

The second way in which studio publicity departments may slightly distort the truth is by deck-stacking, or what might be termed the "hunt and peck" method of review-choosing, Although this can't be proven beyond the shadow of a doubt — or, anyway, it can't be proven beyond the shadow of a doubt without the aid of a computer, The Library of Congress, several years worth of the **READERS GUIDE TO PERIODICAL LITERATURE** and a lot more effort than I'm willing to put into it at my salary — it's likely that there has never been a movie released since the dim beginning of the motion picture industry that has not gotten at least one good review from somebody, somewhere, The vagaries of human taste being what they are, even the most unmitigated turkey probably has at least one supporter, even if that supporter writes his or her reviews in crayon and publishes them in the **BELLEVUE BUGLE**, and what the publicity department must therefore do is find the good review(s) and utilize it (them) in its ads in large enough letters and with enough fanfare that the unsuspecting public comes to believe that the praises sung carry as much weight as those warbled by more respected critics. And it usually works, too, because most people have better things to worry about than which reviewer is which, and who knows what he or she is talking about, and who doesn't. Still, this system can be beaten if one merely remembers the self-evident and common sensical rule that the farther down a publicity department has to dig for a good review, the crummier a film is liable to be. Of course, this begs the question of how one can possibly tell how deeply the PR people have had to go to get a decent quote, but this is easily established if one learns how to read critic bylines, a skill that can be boiled down as follows: For the most part, East Coast is better than West Coast, which is better than mid-West, print beats broadcast and television beats radio. Naturally, there are exceptions to this: Siskel and Ebert — who, as a matter of fact, both started out as, and maintain roles as, print critics, albeit in the mid-West, but who are best known as broadcast critics — outrank just about everybody — **COSMOPOLITAN** magazine likes every single film it reviews and cannot, therefore, be trusted, and Rex Reed and Joel Seigel are well known weenies — and naturally, if you pay enough attention to reviews, you will eventually develop your own theories as to which critics' tastes most match your own (not to mention migraines and a slight tendency to list to starboard), but within these confines it is possible to make an educated guess as to the nature of a movies from the critics mentioned in the ads. Incidentally, pay absolutely no attention to those television commercials in which Just Plain Folks Like You and Me give their opinions on a new movie. If these Just Plain Folks knew anything at all about films they'd be home, staring at blank pieces of paper in their typewriters and wondering if they should sign up for that course at the local beauty school, and, besides, if someone came up to you and asked for your opinion on a film and intimated that said opinion might appear on national television, would you admit that said film made you wish you had spent the evening in Alaska, sponging oil off of sea otters? Well, I thought so.

No, you might think that was the end of the matter, and you are thoroughly prepared to make a wise judgment about the films you see from now on, secure in the knowledge that never again will you be forced to spend another Sunday afternoon slumped over in a cramped theatre seat, idly wondering just how long ago it was that the devil approached Meryl Streep about her soul, but, unfortunately, things are not typically that neat. While we've been exploring the ways in which a clever publicity department can manipulate mediocre or even bad reviews so they look like unqualified raves, and even more insidious — because absolutely unconscious — process is at play, wherein, for convoluted, dank and ultimately unsatisfying reasons, every critic in the free world gives what looks like a colossal review to a film, and that film turns out to be a basset hound anyway.

No one has ever adequately explained how it is that a large, amorphous group of diverse individuals can suddenly all fall victim to the same bizarre folly and start babbling about something like, say, Who Framed Roger Rabbit as though it were Laurence Olivier's Henry V, but there are many, many theories concerning the phenomenon. Some people posit that the strain of seeing huge numbers of films — close to a thousand yearly for some reviewers who work for the daily papers — begins to tell on the poor souls, so that anything with even the merest glimmer, no matter how slight or even imagined, of originality or humor or dramatic interest starts to look like a triumph of cinematic magnitude, and they react accordingly. Others, more cynical, think that the critics are under the employ of the studios, and are being paid to plug certain films while ignoring others, while some believe the critics, like aging members of the Democratic Socialists, merely develop knee-jerk reactions to things, and automatically assume that anything produced by an underground theatrical group in Central America must *a priori* be excellent. Then, too, we cannot entirely rule out the possibility that, if 50 people like a certain film and you don't, that last hit of mescaline back in '72 was maybe not the good idea it seemed at the time. I, on the other hand, tend to think that this peculiar term of events is brought about, at least in part, by the critics' having evolved, over the years, because of time and space limitations, a jargon or lingo to describe some aspects of a motion picture, and these phrases may be accidentally interpreted as positive by the casual reader, while in actuality they are not. A brief sampling of these questionable phrases and their literal translations should prove enlightening:

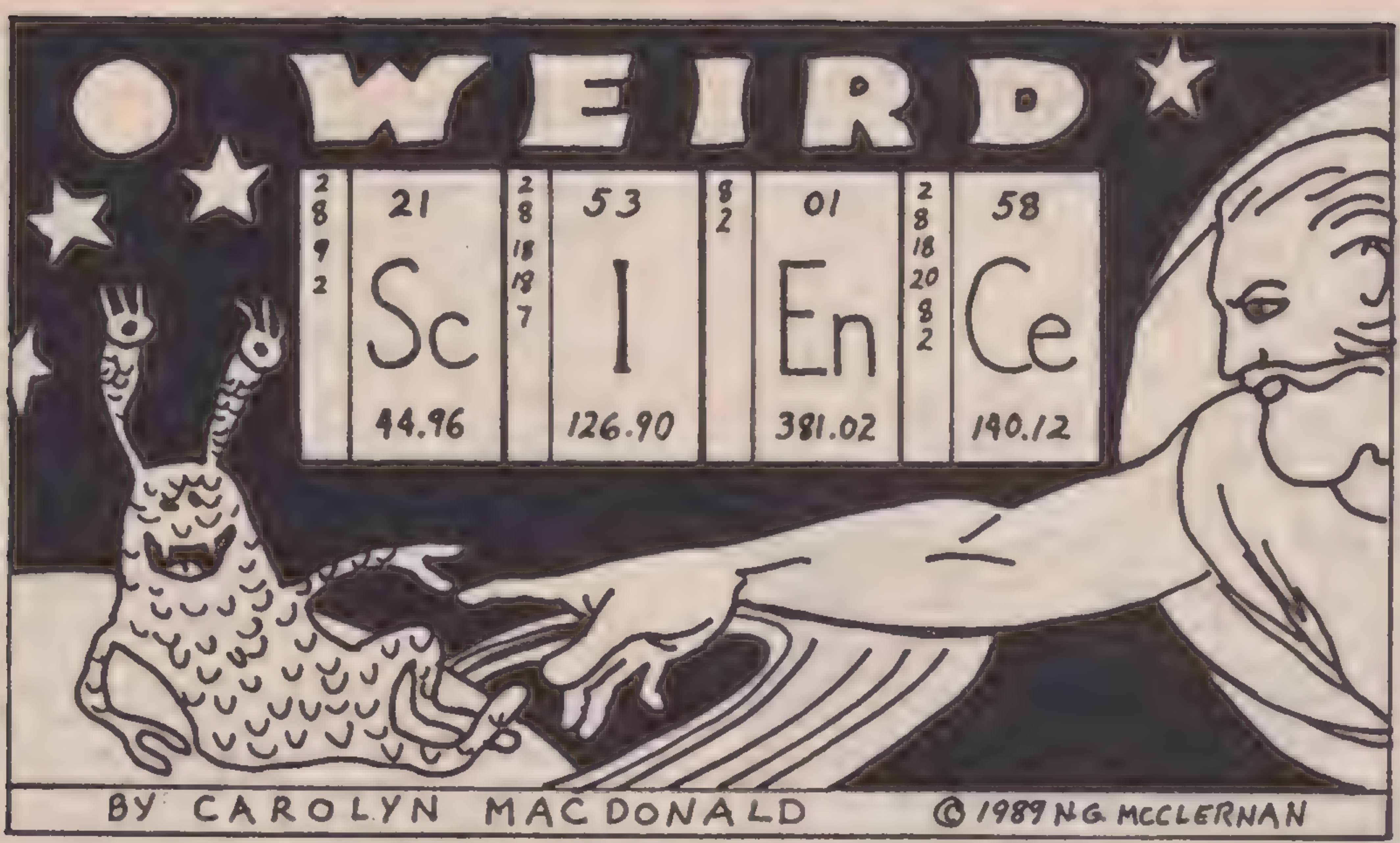
What You Read	**What It Actually Means**
A big, brawling comedy smash. I laughed till I cried.	This film was released somewhere between late May and early August. Contains racial and sexual slurs disguised as good ole boy horseplay. At least one hysterical car chase. Should have a nude sports scene, projectile vomiting, and a few condom jokes. Probably stars somebody named "Corey"
A great, old-fashioned, derring-do adventure. Bring the kids!	Directed by Steven Spielberg.
Heartwarming.	Maalox will be dispensed in the lobby.
Even better than the first!	Used exclusively for sequels and remakes. Even Son of Sam improved with practice.
The feel-good hit of the year.	Directed by Steven Spielberg.
Deeply affecting.	Somebody dies.

Enlightening, hell. You can now see, I believe, exactly why it is that some of us — notably me — are often reduced to tears of shame and guilt when we consider how many people we've — accidentally notwithstanding — sentenced to hours trapped in cheaply-decorated chambers of torture, watching over-produced buddy films ("buddy film" = any movie that stars two or more men and contains more than 20 minutes of good-natured bonding horseplay and a gimmick that tries too hard; i.e., a baby, a bachelor party, a trained animal, or Darryl Hannah), and why some of us — again, notably me — are moved to such an extent that we feel compelled to murder hundreds of innocent column inches in an effort to somehow explain ourselves and our fellows and thereby expiate ourselves. If I have, in some small way, lightened your burden and my own vis a vis movie-going, and the dangers thereof, then my work here is done and I can, perhaps, rest a little easier in my bed tonight. If such is not the case, then I must once again shoulder my packload of self-loathing and trudge onward, step by weary step. It's okay — I'm used to it. Mea maxima culpa.

And for God's sake, steer clear of Honey, I Shrank the Kids. It's a heartwarming, old-fashioned, big, brawling comedy smash, and I laughed till I cried.

POST PUNK POSTCARDS
$1 for sample card and catalog
Write: Mr. Patrick Symes
41-29 Main Street
Suite 149
Flushing, NY 11355

Mel White



★★★★★

Yes, here it is again, I'm back by popular demand (that is at least one person noticed that these things were grouped together a couple of issues ago). With all this stuff and a handy scientist are both lying about the house there's bound to be some probabilty of them coming together. I should at this point remark that while I may have missed a few, all vaguely sciencey zines (whether weird or not) are reviewed here. So, with all the usual disclaimers of probable mutual antipathy (at least with the weirder set), here goes:

★★★★★

BEMI CURRENTS Vol 1 #1 ($12 for membership/quarterly subscription from Bio-Electro-Magnetics Institute, 165 Continental View Drive, Boulder, CO 80303-4514): A journal devoted to the study of "all possible types of interactions of electromagnetic fields with living organisms." This one is generally coherent, well-written and thought provoking. Their "first area of interest," the rapid escalation of electromagnetic pollution, is one to take seriously. The article on magnetic fluctuations during laying-on -of-hands healing does suffer from a lack of convincing detail in experimental description and the article on heart attacks and geomagnetic activity serves to prove, rather than the author's intended point, that given enough pairs of data one must, given the nature of statistics, evenutually find some correlation. Generally a bit gosh-wow, but interesting. (S-8t)

★★★★★

EXTRAORDINARY SCIENCE Vol 1 #2 ($20 for quarterly sub from High Energy Enterprises, PO Box 5636, Security, CO 80931): This is a mixed bunch. The article on high voltage discharges in Tesla experiments was straightforward and informative. The articles on vortexian mechanics and scalar technology were not. I found most intriguing the historical articles — a sketch of Franklin's use of Leydan jars, and a reprint of an article by Faraday. Also interesting was an attack on the Montreal Protocol limiting ChloroFluoroCarbon production (even if I disagreed—and I must point out that gravity has been noted by atmospheric scientists and isn't enough to keep CFC's out of the upper atmosphere). (S-40t)

★★★★★

MICROWAVE NEWS Vol 9 #2 ($130 for 3 issues from PO box 1799, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163) An authoritative summary of recent technical reports, conferences and studies, mostly concerned with the health effects of, and regulatory legislation delaing with, microwave radiation. This issue includes an editorial presing for ANSI standards for radiation limits to be more carefully considered. A lot of detailed information collected in one neat package, it's slightly pricey, but nothing compared to some other technical journals. (S-16t)

★★★★★

NOW WHAT #2 ($4 from Waves Forest PO Box 768, Monterey, CA 93942) Most of this issue was taken up with a long article supporting oxygen therapy. While the concept is interesting, and I don't doubt that oxygen might be good for people, a lot of very controversial, at best, assertions are stated as facts. (In particular it might be pointed out that breathing ozone and even oxygen in high concentrations can be toxic, and I've got to wonder how healthy drinking large quantities of peroxide really is.) Also included is a listing of 21 perpetual motion or "free energy" machines, references included (guarantees not). (S-31t)

★★★★★

PRIORITIES Spring 1989 (4 issues for $16 from American Council on Science and Health, 1995 Broadway, 16th floor, New York, NY 10023-5860) Article titles include "Beef is Good Food," "Our Water is Safe," "Chemophhobia Drives Laws over the Edge" and "Quckwatch." The $5000 and higher level supporter and sponsors include Du Pont, Burger King, General Electric and Dow Chemical.

They do appear to be against smoking (no money from R.J. Reynolds yet). Actually I have to agree with their warnings against megadoses of vitamin C, and the article supporting walking for exercise seems innocuous enough, but one does have to wonder a teensy bit about their impartiality. (S-48t)

★★★★★

PULSE OF THE PLANET Vol 1 #1 ($10 from Orgone Biophysical Research Laboratory, PO box 1395, El Cerrito, CA 94530) Dedicated to the "science" of "orgone (life) energy functions". The lead article asserts that the editor possesses a technology of cloud bursting (no details supplied) that can end droughts and desertification if only we call up and ask for it. There are several laments that no scientists have refuted by experiment any of their claims, but no specific experiment is outlined to try, with the exception of the assertion attributed to Reich that stars are a local energy phenomenon and would not be visible from space. Wouldn't that be rather a blow to Voyager's navigation? (S-54t)

★★★★★

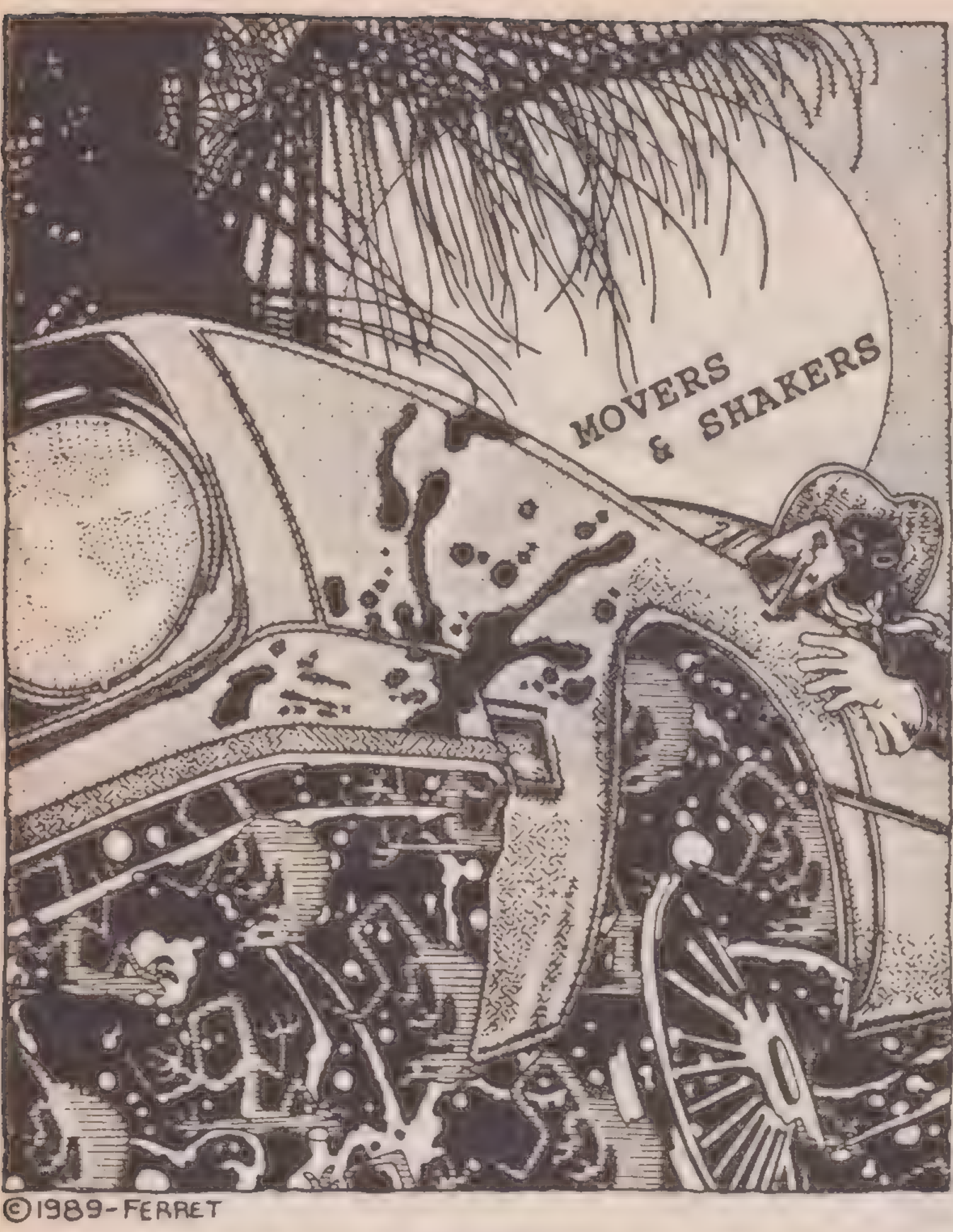
PYROTECHNICS #42 ($4/4 issues [NO TRADES — Sample for $1.25 in stamps only], check payable to Constance Trembley, c/o Mary Lynn Skirvin, 901 Lorlyn Dr. #3B, West Chicago, Ill. 60185) "The Now & Then Newsletter of General Technics." A delightful, chatty newsletter about things scientific. Several of the contributions this time around centered on cold fusion, including a highly readable introduction to fusion and fision, discussions of Pons and Fleischmann's motivations, and, my favorite, descriptions of reactions to a hoax set-up which included a lead brick labeled, "stand behind this brick." Other contributions included telescope projects to reinterest kids in do-it-yourself science and a discussion of "lost" technologies. (S-20t)

★★★★★

RESONANCE #14 ($1.50 from Judy Wall, PO 64, Sumterville FL 33585): Newsletter of the Biolectromagnetics Special Interest Group of Mensa. A two person endeavor including a quick description of antenna, a rather dry, and I suspect to the uninitiated totally opaque, if reasonably accurate, survey of the basics of electromagnetism (in two pages no less—to think I bought all those long winded textbooks), articles about space processing technology, gravitropism and finally, in deference to the title, a page and a half of gibberish about communication between life forms at 10 hz resonances and how polar reversals would harm life by causing imbalances between trace elements (if one happened to survive the intense radiation). (D-20)

★★★★★

VDT NEWS Vol 6, #3 ($87/6 issues from PO Box 1799, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163). The only thing weird about this is that it's taken industry, and our friends the government and the unions so long to notice carpal tunnel syndrome. Like Microwave News, which is put out by the same people, the journal consists of summaries of recent articles, conferences and legislation. This issue includes reports of some practical recommendations, such as (aha!) having employees spend less time at the terminal and simply spacing terminals farther from the keyboard. (S-12t)



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TROUBLE COMES IN THREES

Mongrel vigor, ritual murders, black laughter. We had post moderns and we had cyberpunks and we had splatter. We know you want the nineties movement now and we had a big plan to give you a list of what we thought was the most feverish talent fugitive of the literary pop world. Planned to.

However, the new movement is annoyingly remaining a non movement with everybody visciously protecting their own style. Most of the people *we* consider to be in this movement can be found lurking in the pages of **FACTSHEET FIVE**. But what were we to to do with say, more or less 500 drops of black rain? What we *did* was decide on a **FACTSHEET FIVE** bowl of twisty bits. We picked a triskelion of rascals that we feel are nineties material. These writer's style's are three different interpretations of George Bush's theme, "Why worry, be happy." Cheers to their tushe colored hearts for grinning in the face of our forthcoming Apocalypse culture.

The Last Waltz

an excerpt

by Don Webb

The Heat was closing in. The cops were releasing their devil dogs. Old blind cop ladies swung pendulums over maps of Vienna muttering Aryan incantations between their warm chocolate chip cookies and enemas. I swept all my cocaine into my black bag, said goodbye to my collection of antiquities, and ran for the back stairs. I didn't have my ESP going and when you don't have your ESP going — you fuck up. The cops were waiting at the bottom of the stairs.

"Hello Sigmund. Publish any of your Jewish theories lately?"

I yelled, "Save me, Carl" and ran. The cops looked forJung. They'd a-hell of a lot rather bust him than me. Vienna had got too hot. The Dream Police had already arrived and they'd be hustling off the Jews for real in a few decades. I'd have to get my beard cut. O castration. O Delilah. I grabbed a hansom cab to a shabby quarter.

Soon my face was covered with a hot towel. It had been so easy at first. Telling daughters that their rich daddies hadn't raped 'em. Telling sons if you want to fuck your mother — go ahead, you'll find out she's just an old Viennese crone who can barely waltz. The barber lathers my face. Cut. Cut. Cut.

"We've been waiting for you, Herr Dokter Freud." People of all races have entered the barbershop. All of them ugly and harsh. Is this a dream? A vision sent by a rival shaman?

"Herr Dokter Freud. We have a little proposition. As you know, the American Edison has invented moving pictures. Soon — you may be surprised to know — sound will be added to film."

"It doesn't surprise me. It seems a logical development."

"We want you to codify your dream and psychiatric work."

"You want to know what symbols to put in the films to control people, and if I don't, the Vienna police shoot me for escaping?"

"Excellent Herr Dokter Freud. You are as quick on the uptake as they say."

They file out of the barbershop and the barber — no doubt a Freemason or a member of the Fraterni Saturni — continues my shave. "You'll be able to go back to your practice, Herr Dokter Freud. Just produce the books we need."

I leave the shop. I'll give them books. I'll give them such books of nonsense the world has never seen. The goy always want Jewish books. Cabala-envy. Give us teachings, Herr Christ. This way to the Cross, Herr Christ. I'll give them books to get inside their heads and drive them mad. The Dark Cabala to flicker endlessly on movie screens and radio and mediums as yet unborn. . . .

*****

ROAD MAP MAN

an excerpt from Yella Rotagilla

Mink Mole

And Mole peeled the dweeb out from behind the steering wheel of his ruined car by the nape of his neck and asked, "Eh Fuckhead! Why'd yew go and make the pissant mistake of flipping me off back there? Yew got some kind of passion?" At that, Mole held the squealing, scrawny little Texan at arms length over the canyon edge and listened to the sound of bowels being vacated.

Curling a lip and snarling at the stench, Mole stared down the length of his rigid arm and into the small-time grifter's bleeding face, reading the lacerations — caused by punching his fist through the windshield of the burning, overturned vehicle and gripping him with a fistful of glass —as if they formed a roadmap.

"Hmmm," growled Mole, locking his other fist around the driver's balls and letting go of his neck. The small-time grifter slung upside down in the air, dropping like a hangman's weight, as his pockets of shiny new pennies

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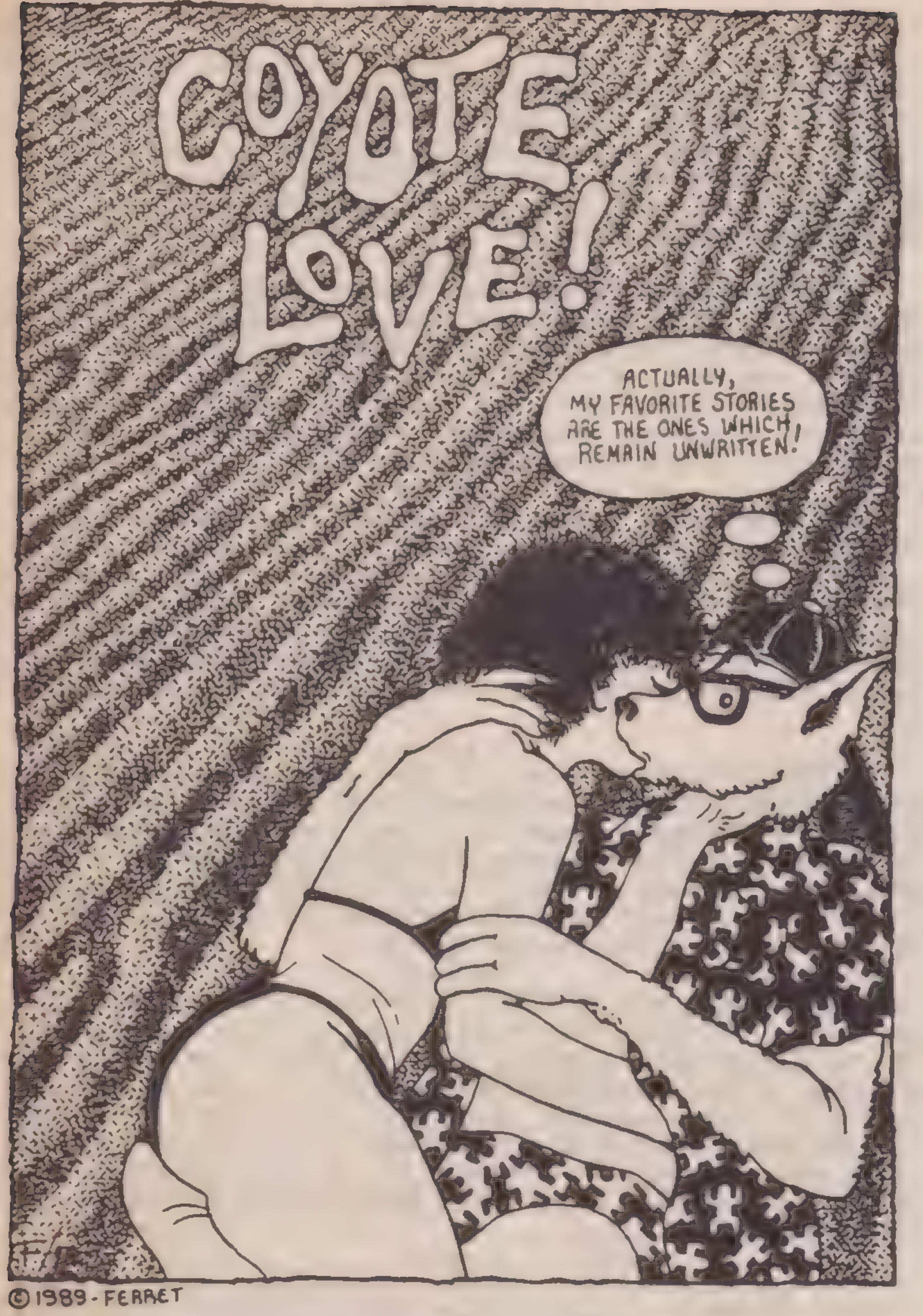

COYOTE LOVE!
ACTUALLY, MY FAVORITE STORIES ARE THE ONES WHICH REMAIN UNWRITTEN!
©1989-FERRET

emptied, echoing off the rock walls like the sound of cheap tin. "So that's how you get to Dallas, eh? Maybe I can use you after all."

Mole first folded the man's legs back behind him and then followed suit with his arms. Next came the torso and the neck, then belly — being careful to run a hard crease down the center of the rib cage. Weighing the neat and screaming eight by four inch square in his hand he decided that it was still a bit too thick. Placing the folded, rectangular man on the pavement, Mole stomped upon it with the heels of his boots until the thing had no lumps and was paper thin. Peeling the fleshy mass from the pavement he then unfolded it until he could find the silent, screaming mouth. "So I go south about another 10 miles and then take the Fort Worth junction...."

Mole refolded the roadmap-man and kicked the burning car in the trunk. The car slid forward on its scrunched roof and rolled off the edge of the cliff, following closely not only the wake, but sound of the pennies which had preceded the car only moments before.

Hiking back to the LeSabre Mole slid in behind the wheel, engaged the shifter, and stuffed the roadmap-man into the overhead visor next to the others.

"Son of a bitch!" He hooted, punching the gas pedal hard and tearing along the roadside ditch — the frappe rabbits and lizards spraying high into the air behind the LeSabre, stippling the trunk with road-dirt mixed with bone and bloodsplattered fur fragments. "Why, b'lieve I got one fer every state in the union, now!"

★★★★★

LIFE AS A COMIC BOOK CHARACTER
and excerpt from YELLOWJACKET
by Misha

Yes, I'm that double masked mystery in black and crimson. The one who stalks a mad lover in dream broken by sleep. In this place the skyscraper is my only shadow. It rains all day and the clear nights are shattered by moonlight reflected on every slick surface. My best friend is sinister laughter, savagery my badge and my enemies dwell in suburban bedrooms.

At best, I'm a sophisticated animal hungry for the dark, a bracelet of moods gentle and ruthless, a totem of impossible hand game tricks, with a team of comic book heroes rustling their capes and revealing their secret identities.

Yet no secret identity consoles me at midnight. No killing joke delivers its last line. I am the dubious protagonist of some graphic artist's jagged memory. The Trickster. Blurgits mark my passing; my thoughts are all in cages, and my exaggerated curves agitrons to your sensuality.

Every full moon I cry genuine blood tears to prove I'm real. My Grandmother Kitsune provides me with a web of words to trap and sting. And Grandfather Tanuki dances the Ghost Dance and throws me crow feathers, a coyote kochina and a blood moon.

It's always been like this. Once a month I shape shift to someone else; sometimes Speel-yi, others, At-at-a-hlia, the Owl Woman, tying you to a baby board and telling you to "Go Forever". But it is only your own ignorance that allows this. Can you stanch the flow of the lava by sacrificing me?

Here I wait in this world of black and white, your invincible friend or foe. You color me with blood red, she-wolf lavender and feral yellow. I prowl the panels, a kikeibutsu freak.

You try to kill me with technology. But in my grave Red magic boils. Can I help it if I'm bound to the evil moods of nature? I see the horror engraved on your retinas, as I jump right off your larger than life page. But I only wanted to ask you Dear Reader — who's the fool now?

★★★★★

The above pieces are excerpts from novels in progress.

Books by the above writers include:

UNCLE OVIDS EXERCISE BOOK a collection by Don Webb, Illinois Fiction Collection, Sun and Moon Press, trade pb $8.95

FULLY ONE QUARTER, A novel by Don Webb — TBA

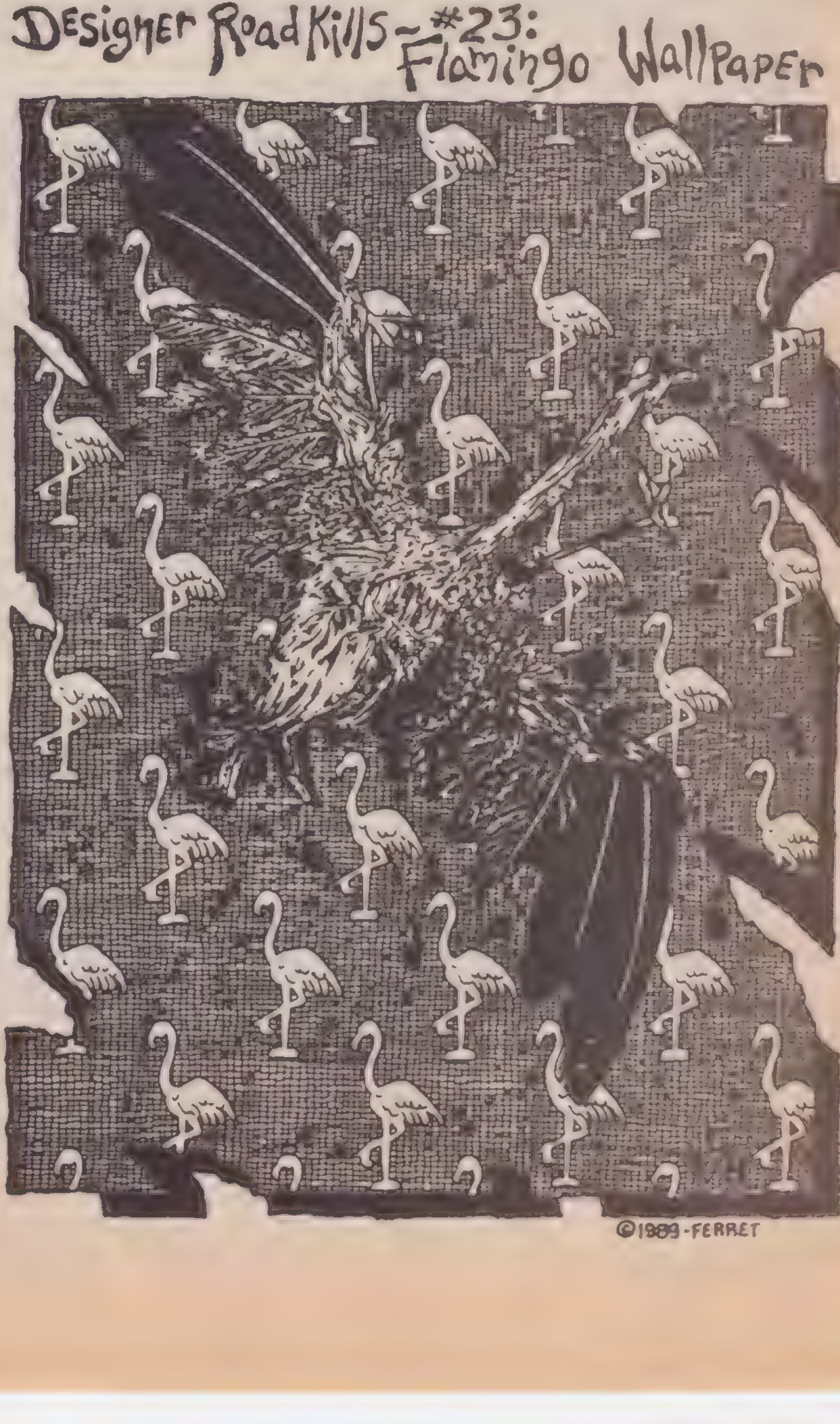
ALLIGATOR ALLEY, a novel by Mink Mole Dr. Adder and Ferret, Morrigan Publications, 26 St. Paul's Drive, Scotsorth, Lancaster, LA1 4SR England, hc £13.95 or special edition which includes t-shirt and cassette for £45.00

NEO CANTON LEGACY, a graphic novel by Ferret, Howski

PHOENIX RESTAURANT, a graphic novel by Ferret, Fandom House, PO Box 1348, Denver CO. 80201 $3.50

PRAYERS OF STEEL, Misha, Wordcraft 953 N. Gale, Union Oregon 97883. pb $5.00

RED SPIDER WHITE WEB, Misha, Morrigan Publications, 26 St. Paul's Drive, Scotsorth, Lancaster, LA1 4SR England, hc


Designer Road Kills ~ #23: Flamingo Wallpaper
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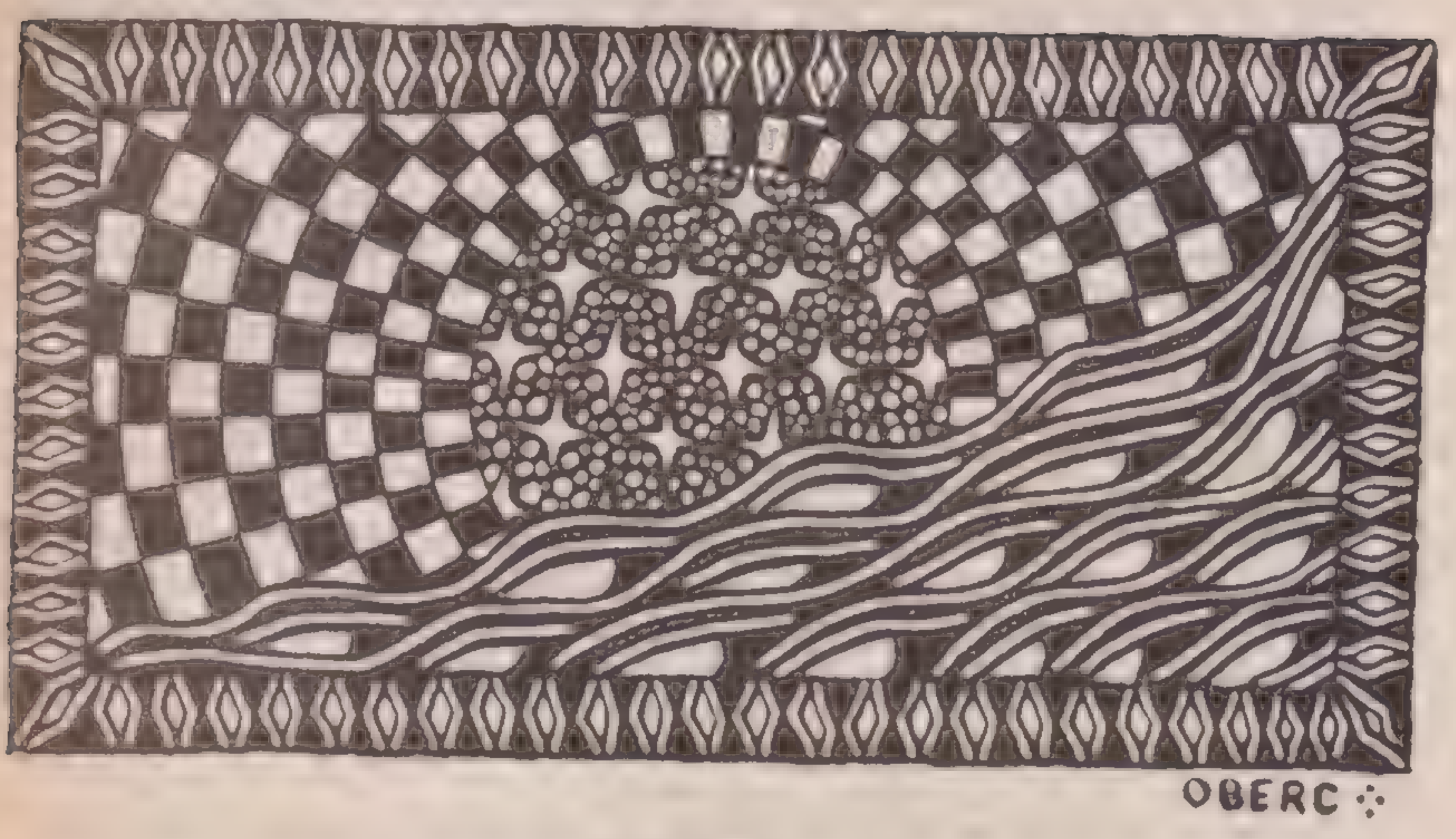
POETRY



★★★★★

Poetry reviews are by either P.J. Bellomo (pj) or the Aeditor (MG).

★★★★★

90 MPH #1-2 ($2 (?) from Sam Gibson, PO Box 124, Oregon, IL 61061): The middle of the country seems to be breeding outrageous poetry zines lately, and here's another. Dressed up by stark art, the poems here are bursts from the minds of disillusioned youth, raging about acid rain and plastic people, caressing the idea of hate, or just having a lousy time in the world. A few short stories fit in with the same mood. (S-20) (MG)

★★★★★

ABRAXAS #37 ($3 from 2518 Gregory St., Madison, WI 53711): Their 20th anniversary issue — obviously they are content to bring out magazines when they're ready and not before. There is a lot of good solid contemporary poetry here — nothing outrageously experimental, but nothing utterly placidly boring either. Contributors whose work impressed me include Donald Schenker, Laura Boss, A.D. Winans, and Susan Firer. (D-80t) (MG)

★★★★★

ALTERNATE LIVES ($1.25 from Ralph E. Vaughan, 353 Oxford St., Chula Vista, CA 92011): A booklet of poetry, drawings and short prose reflecting on the idea of alternate universes or timestreams. About half the works here tackle the job of portraying a "What if" situation; I especially enjoyed Kim Neidigh's works, including 4 lines which propel Columbus over the edge of the world. The rest reflect on the nature of time in general. (D-20) (MG)

★★★★★

APA-RENGA 21 ($5 to open an account from Terri Lee Grell, 755 Sightly Road, Toutle, WA 98649): Note the new address for this subscriber written zine based on the Japanese Renga poetry form; Tundra Wind, AR's sober and diligent editor, is handing the reins to T.L. Grell after this issue. There's always good-spirited activity in this zine. Many writers will find this a valuable forum. Hope all is well with TW; look forward to the new and exciting. (HL-59) (pj)

★★★★★

ARBELLA #4 ($2 (?) from Dreadnought Earth Press, 301 Seaman St., New Brunswick, NJ 08901): There's some prose offerings here but the major part of the contents is in the poetry of opposition arena. Lots of raging against the system, some fatalistic, some hopeful. A special "Fast Food Section" of essays and poems in this issue focuses in on one particular nasty institution, indicting it in a dozen or more ways. (S-75) (MG)

★★★★★

ARROYO Summer 1989 (50¢ from PO Box 5591, Springfield, IL 62705): For those of you who've followed this one, that's a temporary summer address. There's not much here this time around: an opening poem by Rane Arroyo, 3 reviews by Glenn Sheldon, some graphics, and some advertisements. Newcomers should hold-out for the next issue or you'll be unduly disappointed. (S-4) (pj)

★★★★★

BELLOWING ARK, vol 5, no. 3 ($2 from PO Box 45637, Seattle, Washington, 98145): After a bothersome editorial guilt-trip, this issue gets down to business. And per usual, I am impressed by its dedicated literary excellence. There's short stories, long and short poems, and excerpts from novels. This tabloid seems to constantly supply the reader with an array of fine new writers, while also publishing familiar favorites. (T-20t) (pj)

★★★★★

BIG FIRE PROOF BOX #2 ($1 plus postage from Joel Kuszai, PO Box 6428, East Lansing, MI 48826): Tremendous. Choking. Breathlessly sensuous. Yeah, that's the common thread here, sensuality. A zine of poems which draw their power from touch, even when its perverted in the form of violence. And then Lara Stapleton adds this brief short-story, "Sonic Youth." And this too is devastating. Except for the academic-art-school criticism of surrealism which opens this issue, each piece is frightfully tenable. (D-28t) (pj)

★★★★★

THE BLUE GUITAR Vol. 1 #1 ($3 from Rick Kearns, 609 Geary Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110): A group of four writers/artists in central PA are trying to make TBG a forum for others in an area that's relatively "closed" to such expression. Although initially intended as a quarterly, they've received enough interest to shoot for a bimonthly schedule. The poems are mostly short, and there's some interesting stuff, but they'll surely benefit from increased variety. (S-24t) (pj)

★★★★★

BONE & FLESH #2 ($5 from Frederick Moe, 4 Washington Ct., Concord, NH 03301): Mainly poetry, though they also print a few short stories and essays. This is mostly very reflective work, less descriptive than evocative, and heavy on explorations of human nature. This issue opens with a tribute and some last poems from the late Joel Oppenheimer. Other strong work comes from Dwight Humphries and Belinda Subraman, to pick just two fo the dozens of contributors. (S-93) (MG)

★★★★★

BONEFISH 00 ($1 from Peter Mantis, 123 Stonewall 4, Memphis TN 38104): This is the first of what promises to be a series of special issues from BONESAUCE, each issue featuring the work of a single writer. Paul Weinman offers some interesting poems which juxtapose fish/fishing imagery and heterosexual relations; and he never gets tacky, though many a fish swallow the worm. The editor balances this with an unruly, precocious display of quasi-aquatic graphics — somehow it's all so synergistic. (D-24) (pj)

★★★★★

BONESAUCE #7 (50¢ from 123 Stonewall #4, Memphis, TN 38104): Imagine graphics of well-known singers, actors, politicians, etc. photocopied and splattered all-over the page. Then imagine that some of these graphics are hand-colored with fluorescent highlighters and captioned with deep philosophical questions such as "Why do dogs walk in circles before lying down?" Now imagine poetry that whispers till you bend real close, whereupon it screams into your ear. (D-20r) (pj)

★★★★★

Dennis Brutus, **AIRS & TRIBUTES** ($10 from Whirlwind Press, PO Box 109, Camden, NJ 08101): This chapbook was issued in a limited edition on the occasion of Brutus receiving the Paul Robeson Award "for artistic excellence, political consciousness, and integrity". The poet is a white South African exile (imprisoned, shot, banned, and so on, before he got out) who uses his words as a tool to oppose apartheid. His is a quiet but strong voice, commemorating the martyrs of the struggle, assured of ultimate victory because its cause is just. Terse, spare poems with a visceral impact. (D-17t) (MG)

★★★★★

Guy Capecelatro III, **THIS MOVIE** ($2 from Matt Jaspar, PO Box 303, Durham, NH 03824): A mini comprised of 25 short prosaic poems. Generally these were unexciting. However, there are some odes to a lost love that work well: "Three Hairs" comes to mind, a quick poignant stab that results from recalling a former companion. (M-26r) (pj)

★★★★★

Alan Catlin, **THE HAUNTING** ($6 from The Ploman Press, Box 414, Whitby, ONT, L1N 5S4, CANADA): A long cycle of poems about living with, then apart from, then with an insane parent. The poet's mother gets worse and worse, flakier and flakier, until part two, when she ends up committed. There follow poems about this separation, then the eventual "cure" and the problems that never go away. Powerful and chilling stuff. (D-68) (MG)

★★★★★

Anthony Chianese, **HAMBURGER WISDOM** ($1 from 301 Seaman St, New Brunswick, NJ 08901): As the author indicates, this isn't a unabashed condemnation of meat-eating, but a challenging and humorous look at some of the issues involved. It's done with collage type graphics and essays and poems. No these aren't masterpieces, and yes they're only photocopied pages of the author's own writing; but gee, the idea that we're meat that's eaten too (by society, metaphorically) somehow stays with you... (L-18) (pj)

★★★★★

CHIRON REVIEW Vol 8 #1 ($2 from Michael Hathaway, Rt 2 Box 111, St John, KS 67576): A literary tabloid containing mainly contemporary poetry, supplemented by book & zine reviews, news, and some short fiction. There were familiar names such as P. Weinman and S. Murphy; though I encountered many talented folks that were new to me, such as H. Calhoun and L. Jackson. Too many great works to list. Credit to the editor for a fine production. (T-24) (pj)

★★★★★

CLEAR #20 (25¢ or stamp from PO Box 6013, East Lansing, MI 48823): A broadsheet with a single poem called "2-4-D" by C. Schneck. It's a pensive account of a Nam vet's recollections of agent orange, spawned by the springtime spraying of 2-4-D: "My father kicks around/a weed that's curled up and brown,/and says, 'But it's mixed down/and it sure goes to town/on the dandelions.'" A poem about pragmatism? (L-1) (pj)

★★★★★

Merritt Clifton, **ANGEL OF THEIR HUMAN GOD** ($1 (?) from Box 129, Richford, Vermont 05476): Can't even guess the cost by Clifton the Bull's pricing method. Send a buck, cite this review, it'll be worth the gamble. These poems are a moving tribute to a person's love and respect for the "animal world" if you will. "From an Age of Cars" points to an archaeological discovery where animals were buried alive with humans: "a deep long gash/in solid stone/shows how the horse resisted." The author's stern enthusiasm is empowering. (D-12) (pj)

★★★★★

CONDITIONED RESPONSE 8 ($2 from Conditioned Response Press, PO Box 3816, Ventura, CA 93006): You'll encounter S. Murphy and J. Grey again, and surely get a treat from them both. However, the clever work of Keith Dodson and Judson Crews is what really got me. Dodson's "Laundromats" gives funny hints on nipping freshly cleaned panties; and "You can get bras/there too/if you're into/that." Crews gets a laugh with a familiar poetic trick of sketching a scene from 3 perspectives. Here's the punch line: "Yeah, that's Irma/on the fifth floor/pissing out the window/with red hair." Good show. (D-24) (pj)

★★★★★

Judson Crews, **TROJAN HORSES** ($3 from Incendiary Publications, PO Box 210095, San Francisco, CA 94121-0095): A chapbook of many quick sardonic poems. Most deliver a sarcastic message or sketch a fast unexpected scene. There's an occasional thought-provoker, such as "Being a Past Master-builder of Trojan Horses": it seems the poet recommends creosote, so the structure doesn't decay before "enemies come out to wheel it in." (D-24) (pj)

★★★★★

Mick Cusimano, **WONDER WOMAN** (1 stamp from Crawl or Die, PO Box 8531, Salem, MA 01971-8531): More illustrated doggerel from the self-styled underground surrealist of Boston. This is a love story in verse, boy meets girl, boy loses girl, the end. No happy endings here. (M-8) (MG)

★★★★★

daevh, **STARVE SONG** ($1.50 from Dancing Fish Press, 2-381 Roncesvalles Ave, Toronto, Ontario M6R 2M8): If these works were read aloud it would seem more like the author was simply talking than reciting poetry. Should you happen to stay awake, you'll get a good laugh or two: "Get a haircut buddy/Fuck that man/I'm still recovering/from my last one." Or "Birds of a feather/flock together/and it makes me/sick." In the context of the chapbook these get a chuckle — maybe 'cuz the poems over 6 lines long stink. (D-28t) (pj)

★★★★★

DREAMS AND DARKNESS ($1 (?) from 541 Canvasback Circle, Springdale, OH 45246): Poems, graphics, and a short story cut and pasted on 14 photocopied pages. The writing is a horrible drivel. The layout is a horrible mess. Only an american teenager would waste the remnants of dead trees like this. (S-14) (pj)

★★★★★

DREAMS AND NIGHTMARES 27 ($4/6 issues from David Kopaska-Merkel, 10 Walker Ave, Troy, NY 12180): Two things disappoint me: this has slipped to a publication schedule of only thrice annually, and the insightful editorial remarks preceding/following the poems are getting scarce. Nonetheless, there's some fair poetry here; in this issue "Dream Disease" by M. Peter and "Lug" by K. Foster steal the show, despite what seem slight deviations from the "fantastic & speculative" format. (D-20) (pj)

★★★★★

Sharon Eiker, **FRAGRANCE OF GOD** ($5(?) from Carl Bettis, PO Box 32631, Kansas City, MO 64111): This is no sociological discussion of the "fragrance vs. odor" issue; rather, Eiker pours-out in a spiritual appreciation of a supreme being concept, loosely based in some hybrid-Christian framework. One might call Sharon's craft immaculate in places. The only trouble comes in areas where she delves into rhyme and meter; these poems fail, detracting from her otherwise vital and elegant style. (D-70t) (pj)

★★★★★

Greg Evason, **PINGOTH** ($1 (?) from 912 Broadway Ave., Toronto, ONT, M4K 2R1, CANADA): An experimental poem that appears to be rubberstamped on the pages between the construction-paper covers. It starts off with a Joycean title page ("timothoonerwalb & / brownishlassanation. / whistlquo & whistlink!...") then gets a bit more linear, but still too deep for me. (M-10) (MG)

★★★★★

FEH! #6 ($5/3 issues from Simeon Stylites, PO Box 5806, Stn. B, Montreal, Que., H3B 4T1, CANADA): Noxious poetry put together by people with a fascination for bodily fluids, fallen preachers, death and strange sex. The editor bemoans a recent glut of bad noxious poetry, but has still managed to put a bunch of good noxious poetry together here. A definite change from hearts and flowers and horses in fields of tall grass. (HL-32t) (MG)

★★★★★

FINE MADNESS Vol. 6 #1 ($4 from PO Box 15176, Seattle, WA 98115-0176): There's a few bits of short prose here, but this is mainly poetry, and most of that in a fairly traditional vein. They lead off with a strong trio of poems from David Kirby, especially "The Bottomless Cup", the world contained in daily coffee. Melinda Mueller's "Occam's Razor" is likewise very thoughtful, though in this case the subject is faith rather than life. Quality reading. (D-80t) (MG)

★★★★★

FISH DRUM #4 ($2.50 from 626 Kathryn Ave, Santa Fe, NM 87501): This issue, subtitled "Desert Nights," contains poems by Leo Romero; Miriam Sagan provides a brief, fresh introduction. Stirring stuff! Much of this is fueled by a recurring scenario which finds the author driving thru the desert at night. These poems feed off each other, then feed on you. (D-36) (pj)

★★★★★

W. Kirk Freeman, **CHERUBS AND FLIES** ($2 (?) from Grease Bottoms Only, 901 Fell #16, San Francisco, CA 94117): Poems by Freeman with vaguely Steadmanish illustrations from James Gilliam. Most of these are about people dealing with each other (or not dealing as the case may be), whether as panhandlers or hitchhikers or even exploited workers. Overall there's a sort of cynical voice of the streets, seeing lots of injustice but too burned out to do much about it. (D-22r) (MG)

★★★★★

FROG GONE REVIEW ($4 from Box 46308, Mt Clemens, MI 48046): The first issue of a poetry zine which the editors intend to publish once a year. It'll be hard to match the pace they've set. After sifting thru some 600 poems, the editors came-up with high quality pieces. This will turn off the strictly revolutionary crowd, but for lovers of peace and harmony... "Sometimes Angels of the Grass" by Sheila Nickerson offers a serene high you'll probably never get again so deeply and cheaply. (HL-20) (pj)

★★★★★

GREATEST HITS ($6 from Manic D Press, 1853 Stockton, San Francisco, CA 94133): The editor open this anthology with a note, telling of these poets' needs to transmit a message during "the clamp-down of conservatism." Occasionally funny, but mostly serious and sad, these poems appear directed to other poets. Joel Kuszai's "Champion Cul-De-Sac California" is reminiscent of Ferlinghetti's eloquence, and certainly not to be missed. (D-48) (pj)

★★★★★

S.A. Griffin, **A ONE LEGGED MAN STANDING CASUALLY ON HOLLYWOOD BLVD. SMOKING A CIGARETTE** ($6 from Shelf Life Press, 22704 Ventura Blvd, #245, Woodland Hills, CA 91364): If you see a promo from The Moment on this one, don't cast if off as just another small press claiming to have discovered a genius: Griffin is talented! It's a perfect-bound poetry book with themes that draw heavily from life in Californian cities. "Legacy to the Poor of L.A." is short enough to give you a look: "children dressed in men's clothing/men dressed in animal habits/women clothed in grief." Now this ain't necessarily uplifting, but it's sharp and precise and tangible. (D-66t) (pj)

★★★★★

David Haden, **WHY** (£1 "or a couple of IRCs" from Last Ditch Press, 22 Evesham Road, Stratford, Warwickshire, CV37 9AA, UK): David produces a very flowing poetry, with a word rhythm that drags the reader headlong down the page almost faster than the images can be comprehended. These are dusk poems, soft and gentle, of love and wonder — for the most part. My favorite, though, is "Next!", which I take to be about the problems of being a poet. (A5-12) (MG)

★★★★★

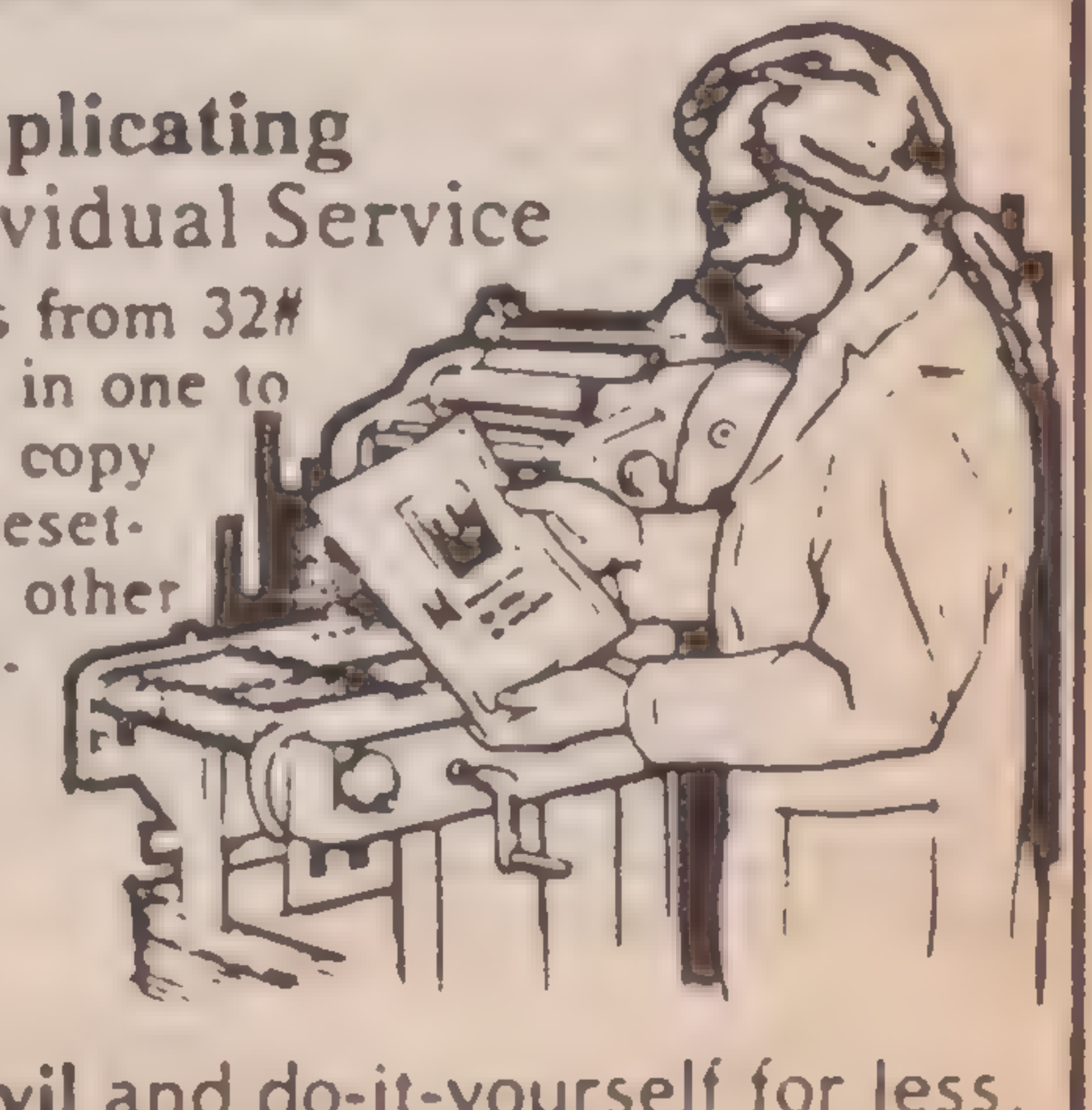
Robert L. Harris, **ALEX WEISSMAN AT THE ASYLUM** ($1 (?) from Box 129, Richford, Vermont 05476): Most of these poems play off of an this vague image of an asylum patient and a concrete obsession with baseball. You don't have to know and love baseball to appreciate the poetry but it certainly would help. The back cover consists of "A Time Ago," which is certainly crafted in the same voice but decidedly more powerful than the rest of the works. (D- 12 (pj)

★★★★★

Anselm Hollo, **MINIGOLF** ($3 from Fell Swoop, 1521 N Lopez St, New Orleans, LA 70119): A chapbook which came out as FELL SWOOP 17 and borrows its titles from the names of the obstacles on a miniature golf course lurking somewhere in southern Louisiana. A fun idea that doesn't quite work throughout. Many of these lazy, abstract poems don't capitalize on the "minigolf" motif. It does provoke smiles in places. (S-18) (pj)

★★★★★

IMPETUS 15-16 ($3 from Cheryl Townsend, 4975 Comanche Trail, Stow, Ohio 44224): Also received the annual male- and female-only issues, which



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are yours if you pay $15 instead of the $10/4 issues subscription rate. This must have been my 1st time, 'cuz I couldn't have forgotten this: great poetry, brief editorials w/interesting news, graphics, and reviews. Issue 16 was by far the best, though it's important to note a definitive chronological trend of steady improvement. Looks like something that can only get better. Subscriptions to **IMPETUS** also include **THE FLYER EXCHANGE COLLECTION**, a fat little digest of ads from other poetic and literary small presses.(D-63) (pj)

★★★★★

Matt Jasper, **AM I GOING TO HEAVEN?** ($1 (?) from PO Box 303, Durham, NH 03824): Judging by the letters which Matt managed to provoke (reprinted here) by putting an ad for the Campus Crusade Against Christ in the student paper, the answer is a resounding *no!* But for now, he's giving us a variety of bizarre views of the world, disjointed bits of life and sex and religion, that paint crazy little pictures. Lots of hand assembly in this work, so I suspect there aren't many copies. (M-36t) (MG)

★★★★★

Mike Jourgensen, **IN FEAR OF MUCILAGE** (SASE from DU Records, 7647 S. Pierce Way, Littleton, CO 80123): 6 short and disjointed poems. They don't make much surface sense, but treated as the random firing of neurons in an attempt to communicate the ineffable they begin to gel. Reminds me somewhat of trying to communicate while peaking on acid; the words come tumbling out but the sense doesn't necessarily follow. (S-3) (MG)

★★★★★

Michael Kriesel, **THE SAILOR, THE WITCH, & THE FAGGOT** ($1 (?) from Box 129, Richford, Vermont 05476): This chapbook of 14 poems works in odd ways. The different characters in the title surface in order, but only fleetingly. (First the sailor readying to go back to see, then the witch in a swamp, and finally the sailor again but this time almost out of the closet.) This format has the effect of forcing the reader to consume the poems as one big whole. The final poem "Birthday Card" ties the loose ends, and has our married hero addressing a gay companion: "until you find me, years from here...listening for what the grass must hear/in your approach." (D-16) (pj)

★★★★★

Donald Kummings, **THE OPEN ROAD TRIP** ($5 from Birch Bark Books, 4101 5th Place, Kenosha, WI 53142): A book of Midwestern poetry, full of fine craftsmanship but lacking in spark in comparison to many of the less traditional things I see these days. Nevertheless the best of the works here capture a feeling that's worth pinning down; the cognitive dissonance of "the Man in the Street" and the disgust with modern industry in "Hot Cross Buns" being prime examples. A quiet book. (D-30t) (MG)

★★★★★

Frances Langelier, **PAINTING REASONS ON THE MIRROR** ($6.50 from Broken Mirrors Press, PO Box 473, Cambridge, MA 02238): A fine chapbook of fantastic poetry. There are many stories here; the one I liked best was "The Jewelpipe Song", a simple tale of someone seeking silence from the ever-singing pipes of the city. "Dealer In Futures", about an unusual junk collector, was neat too. These poems do not open at a glance; they require work to decipher and enter. But it's worth it. (D-55t) (MG)

★★★★★

Dan Lenihan, **LAVA** ($2 from Incendiary Publications, PO Box 210095, San Francisco, CA 94121-0095): Prose-poems about two suburban couples, Clete and Juanita, Ruth and Ellis, with relationships reminiscent of the Flintstones transplanted to the modern west. I especially liked the title poem: "Ellis had the feeling he'd made the chili a bit too hot" when it ate through the pot. (M-12r) (MG)

★★★★★

LILLIPUT REVIEW 3 (50¢ (?) from D. Wentworth, 4 Huddy Ave, Highlands, NJ 07732): A mini zine with 13 short poems. Cat offers six, all constructed around a gamey sex affair. Steve Doehring's, "The Stone Has Been Moved" was probably the most interesting, though none of these delivers with any substantial force. (M-12) (pj)

★★★★★

LIME GREEN BULLDOZERS (AND OTHER RELATED SPECIES) #10 (Cash/stamps donation from Lainie, 723 N. Highland Ave., Arlington Hts., IL 60004): Right-off the layout will scare away some: it's another one of those photocopied, cut-and-paste haphazardly productions I happen to love. Oberc has a graphic in this one which has to be my favorite to date. And among the many recognizable poets, Walt Phillips most forcefully shoved life in my face with "Convolutions." Wait, "Rained On" by Yurus, wow! (S-22) (pj)

★★★★★

Gerald Locklin, **MAYBE THEY CONFUSED ME WITH EZRA POUND** ($2 from Implosion Press, 4975 Comanche Trail, Stow, Ohio 44224): This chapbook opens with "Father Grandfather," a depressing short story about survival in a third marriage. The remainder is cold and dry poetry, crafted with care but emotionally bankrupt. If it wasn't for the poor title, the twist ending of "Monday, Bloody Monday" would have offered a memory. (D-28) (pj)

★★★★★

LOST AND FOUND TIMES #24 ($3 from 137 Leland Ave, Columbus, Ohio 43214): A zine of modern poetry, with a significant amount of visual poetry. The themes vary, though most everything is abstract. John Bennet is the editor, and the author & co-author of numerous poems in this issue. (D-48r) (pj)

★★★★★

Kenneth Lumpkin, **GATHER THE ASHES** ($4 (?) from 42 Greenwood Ave., Pequannock, NJ 07440): More than thirty short and elusive poems. The general themes running through this book are those of connection: between people, between people and the earth, between generations, between cultures. There's a strong, almost conservative, respect for the land underlying most of it. A good book to sit and wonder with. (D-37t) (MG)

★★★★★

LUST...AN EMOTION HALFWAY DOWN THE THROAT #2 (IRCs from Gerry Genbrugge, Kluizendorp 34, 9068 Evergem, O-VL, BELGIUM): A collection of poetry and punk lyrics. As such, it's for the most part pretty downbeat stuff, decrying the problems with society. There's a hard core of fight remaining in most of these poems, but the overall effect is one of crippling injustice in the world. (A5-20r) (MG)

★★★★★

MALCONTENT ($1 from PO Box 703, Navesing, NJ 07752): Previous readers should note that this friendly zine has a new address. There's some nutty things inside, including a series of home photos which will surely make you laugh. Phillips, Weiss, and Weinman provide most of the poems. "The Motel" by Phillips lingered: "there was a great/pea soup place/across the street/we lolled/around/in the pool awhile we were on/our way/somewhere/we/still are." (S-24) (pj)

★★★★★

David McClintock, **THE WESTERN CAMPAIGN - PART I** ($3.90 from Fantome Press, 408 Washington N.W., Warren, OH 44483): Subtitled "Pastoral/Dawn, April 7, 1862," this is a single 25-line poem about a US Civil War skirmish "at Pittsburgh Landing/on the Tennessee." (Or was this a major battle?) Regardless, you're paying for outstanding print-work, not for outstanding poetry. Perhaps this would seem more worthwhile in the company of a Part II, etc. (D-4) (pj)

★★★★★

John McKinley, **MANNEQUIN CREMATORIUM** ($2 from Conditioned Response Press, PO Box 3816, Ventura, CA 93006): These poems seem to be a "definition by example" of modern poetry. They're prosaic and fluid. They're relatively simple, but peppered with just enough unusual imagery to definitely make them "poetry." Everyday objects are used as the base to project poetical thoughts, and this style climaxes early-on with "Bug Light." (D-24) (pj)

★★★★★

Charlie Mehrhoff, **ROAD KILL** (75¢ from Mutated Viruses Press, 1094 W. Pratt Blvd, Apt 1E, Chicago, IL 60626): The price is supposed to just cover postage, so this is a freebie in a way. Topically, this chapbook of short poems is all over the place. It's definitely political, but what's the angle? Take "Lawless": "don't want to go/to heaven/can't afford the rent." Then "The Sacrifice": "white trash/turned out/onto the open plains/of america...white trash/being fattened/for the kill/for the jaws of The Third World/starving." Maybe this is for those who are into primordial scream therapy. (D-28t) (pj)

★★★★★

Elinor Meiskey, **DESOLATION AND DREAMS** ($4 from The Academic & Arts Press, PO Box 1621, Pueblo, CO 81002): The abundance and kinds of natural imagery used in these poems makes me think that the author has spent some time in Rocky Mt regions. Even at their best these poems don't excite; instead, they solemnly take the reader to a place or situation. "Flowering" is a good example of the imagery and style, the author starting the piece with a person crying on flowered sheets and moving to external environments where "In spite of drought and flood,/Or because of them,/The yucca blossoms." (D-20) (pj)

★★★★★

Pamela Miller, **FAST LITTLE SHOES** ($3.75 from The Erie Street Press, 221 S. Cliton Ave, Oak Park, IL 60302-3113): Pamela summed this chapbook up accurately when she wrote to us "not all my stuff is breathless (or love poems) but most of it is odd." Her language is simple but chosen with care. "Letter from Another Hemisphere" is a good sample of the unusual style: starting with "Uruguay is like Cleveland — all of the buildings are fat" she manages to capture the art in what was a less than enjoyable vacation. (D-40t) (pj)

★★★★★

THE MOMENT Spring 1989 ($3 from 22704 Ventura Blvd. #245, Woodland Hills, CA 91364): Another attempt to bring poetry to the people through a fun layout and large circulation, as well as extras like the LA Poetry Hotline (818-992-POEM) and a calendar of local events and stores stocking new poetry. The works here are generally lively, mostly just a bit experimental, and include a few big names along with lots of (I surmise) local poets. The photo illustrations are a nice touch. (S-28t) (MG)

★★★★★

Todd Moore, **6 POEMS** ($.50 from Speakeasy Publications, 847 c7, Erie, PA 16503): Each poem starts "marty shot," "baker didn't," "dave posed," etc., each person figuring as the main character in their respective poem. As expected, the poems are fueled by sordid, criminal-like lifestyles. In these though, Moore's use of such imagery is stirring, frequently reaching a peak in the final lines. Certainly an interest for long-time fans. (D-4) (pj)

★★★★★

Todd Moore, **SHALLOW GRAVES** ($.50 from Speakeasy Publications, 847 c7, Erie, PA 16503): A six poem broadsheet, photocopied and folded to the size of a mini. It's common fair from Moore, the titles acting as the opening words to the 1st lines and the imagery drawing heavily on violence and less-than-liberating sex. This one lacks the force generally characteristic of Todd's work. (S-1) (pj)

★★★★★

S.K. Morgan, **THE LAUGHING ORGASM** ($2 from Incendiary Publications, PO Box 210095, San Francisco, CA 94121-0095): Blurts of poetry with sex and winos the central concerns. Morgan goes down into the gutter after his subjects and makes them human, exhibiting them as decent folks with problems rather than scum. Not a good advertisement for city living. (M-16r) (MG)

★★★★★

Jack Moskovitz, **SOFT COFFIN** ($1.50 from 4161 Wakely St, Omaha, NE 68131): Almost every poem in this chapbook draws from an image of a dead and buried woman. Yes, these are morbid, but constructed with a certain grace nonetheless. For those who consume depression. (D-20t) (pj)

★★★★★

MR. COGITO Vol. IX #1 ($6/3 issues from Robert A. Davies, UC Box 627, Pacific University, Forest Grove, OR 97116): A special issue, dedicated to the works of a batch of East-Central European poets, and translated by a variety of hands. For the most part this stuff is pretty somber, some with an obvious political slant, others simply recounting everyday life. Enough rays of love and hope shine through to keep the collection from being too depressing. (HS-28t) (MG)

★★★★★

Mychele, **THE UNCOMPLETE COLLECTION OF MYCHELE** ($3 from Davis, PO Box 28008, Tempe, AZ 85285-8008): Poems of love and family, though for the most part the two don't mix. There's a surprising amount of angst here, with child abuse and suicide being two of the more downbeat subjects. But there are also poems of hope, so it's overall a strong collection rather than a depressing one, with its spare verse promising more for the future. (D-20t) (MG)

★★★★★

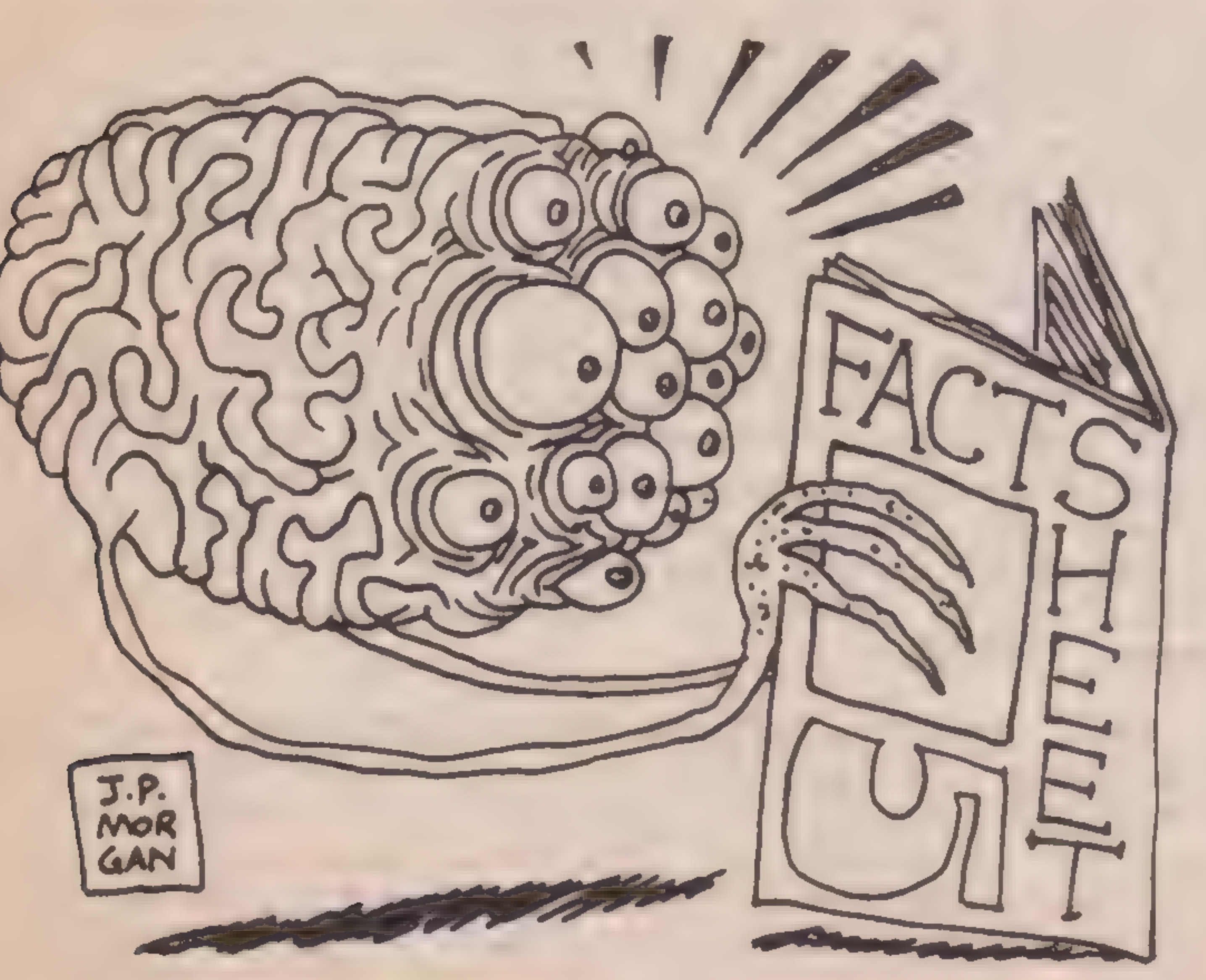
MYSTERIOUS VISIONS ANTHOLOGY 26 (50¢ from Ian Shires, PO Box 360921, Strongsville, OH 44136): This mini is like a bad video marketed to teenage audiences: the package design bodes excitement, and the contents bore their audiences to tears — it's the kind of thing you'll spend money on only once. Ready for some trash: "Cry no more, sweet god of pain/Don't pound the streets with bloodied rain." There's 2 more, and they get even worse. (M-4) (pj)

★★★★★

R.J. Neubauer, **SACANDAGA MEMOIRS** (? from PO Box 191, Chatham, NY 12037): Short chapbook of 10 short poems. "Chair One" offers a flavor of this work: "Lilac blossoms/Filled the air/As he sanded by hand/The Shaker chair/A simple life/From beginning to end/A farmer, a craftsman/A chair for a friend." No price shown, but I bet $1 or some stamps will suffice. (D-12) (pj)

★★★★★

NEW HOPE INTERNATIONAL Vol. 13 #2 ($3 from Gerald England, 20 Werneth Ave., Gee Cross, Hyde, Cheshire, SK14 5NL, UK): A collection of poetry and the occasional bit of short prose. There's a nice page of haiku in this issue, both new and translated from the Japanese. Susan Smeltzer's "Acceptance", while seemingly infelicitously rhythmic at a few points, leaves an overall lingering feeling that justifies the choppy style. (A5-28) (MG)



NEXT EXIT #14 ($3 from 92 Helen St., Kingston, ONT, K7L 4P3, CANADA): New poetry simply presented — no illustrations, no fancy typography, just white space for them to breathe in. No set topic either, unless it's the poetic vision, taking bits of the world and pinning them to paper. Contributors include Sheila Murphy, Greg Evason, BZ Niditch, Lyn Lifshin and Chad Norman. (D-32r) (MG)

★★★★★

NOON BLUE APPLES #9-10 ($1 from Eric Wagner, 2080 E Greenway, Tempe, AZ 85282): A broadsheet of poetry and short written bursts which seem to be motivated by the sheer desire to entertain. Instead of Lis, some woman named Sheena is on the dedication end of Eric's pen. The funniest piece in #9 was the contrast of 4 Noble Truths of Buddhism with 4 Noble Uncertainties of AntiBuddhism. Call me a fiend, but the buck seems a trifle much. (S-6) (pj)

★★★★★

THE PAPER BAG Vol. 1 #2 ($2.50 from PO Box 8805, Chicago, IL 60626-8805): These folks publish poets from all over the states, though a certain Midwest flavor is prominent. In addition, they say that they're "actively seeking" manuscripts, but then dodge responsibility for unsolicited ones. Graphics are scarce, making things kinda dull. Still, it would've been a shame to miss "Bonfire" by M.M. Vertreace, or "Baybee" by J.R. Towns in #2. In #3, there are two nice selections from Stephen E. Toth, who casts a surreal eye over everyday life. (D-36) (pj)

★★★★★

PLANET ON THE TABLE (? from Tavern Hall, 1800 South Rd, Kingston, RI 02881): Word must be out that I'm a sucker for newsprint: I found this poetry tabloid to be comfortably involving. Prosaic works by Richard Wilmarth and Robert L. Tyler stand-out. But it's really the few lackluster pieces that are noticable among otherwise shining company. 21 poems and a simple layout: a couple of bucks oughta keep 'em happy and in business. (T-8) (pj)

★★★★★

THE PLOWMAN #8-9 ($3.95 from Box 414, Whitby, Ontario, Canada L1N 5S4): Somewhere, hidden in the busyness of this monstrosity, the editor reveals that the rejection rate is about 3%. Many poets may find this appealing; be informed, the calibar of work is novice. Overall, TP is an oddball. There's major bucks behind it. A giant classified section, much of which appears to be free. I can't wait for the Poets' Personals. (T-56) (pj)

★★★★★

POEMS ON TISSUE (10¢ & a stamp from Krouse, RD#2 Box 166, New Castle, PA 16101): Just as the title says, a poem typed ona square of toilet tissue. Actually, it's two poems, both sort of violence stemming from anomie. Also available on facial tissue and paper towels. (M-1) (MG)

★★★★★

POETIC LIBERTY Vol. 2 #2 ($3.50 from C. Corry, 3301 John Muir, Plano, TX 75023): Full of shit and honey: a turn of the page can bring a smear of banality or sweet surprise. Joan Ritty received a well-deserved 1st and 2nd place finish in the quarterly poetry contest. "Drought in a Boy" (2nd place) struck me with these words: "when rain came again/it would pass by part of me...and I would miss what was lost to me/and wonder what gained,/wonder if it was good to gain dry silence." Concentrating further on the honey, John Grey's "Dulcimer" paints a soft masterpiece of a woman playing a dulcimer and finding memories in each tragical note of music. (D-56t) (pj)

★★★★★

PUGLIA FRUIT MARKET #1 (50¢ (?) from Daniel f. Bradley, 114 Vaughan Rd. #208, Toronto, ONT, M6C 2ML, CANADA): A small collection of poems ranging from nearly normal (by David Duclos) to grossly experimental (Jake Berry) to completely pictorial (Df.B). The selection is small but cuts a slice through contemporary experiments. (M-6) (MG)

★★★★★

Jim Radzom, **WATERFALL** ($1 from John Porcellino, 1954 Brookside Ln., Hoffman Estates, IL 60194): A pair of matched mini chapbooks to open the "Cehsoikoe Lonesome Poets Series". The first part is sort of disjointed prose, run through a compressor to remove unnecessary words, treating an odd love relationship. The second is a series of short poems, with a jagged feeling like shards of stained glass windows crashing towards the ground. Very elusive imagery and incomplete seeming thoughts. (M-36) (MG)

★★★★★

Elissa Rashkin, **EVERY SHOT A PRAYER** ($1 (?) from PO Box 6704, Station A, Toronto, ONT, M5W 1X5, CANADA): A mini-chapbook with illustrations by Ian Phillips and three-color printing. Lots of blood and anguish here, as well as commentary on the inadequacy of language for the expression of poetic thoughts. This is a cry from the oppressed parts of society. (M-16t) (MG)

★★★★★

RATATOSK #1-3 ($1 from Liz Henry, 707 West 21st St, Austin, TX 78705): A poetry zine with some connection to the University of Texas. In #3, "Gaps" by Andrew Willoughby struck deep, conjuring those confused emotions one feels when meeting someone who used to be a close friend. Some neat graphics on the covers, and a pleasantly bizarre comic by Roy Tompkins. (HL-20t) (pj)

★★★★★

RIVER RAT REVIEW #5 ($3 from PO Box 24198, Lexington, KY 40524): A poetry zine with a memorable cover by S. Clay Wilson and a few more graphics scattered through-out. The first few pieces were slow, but things picked-up considerably. Dianne Cafagna, Tony Moffeit, and Bill Shields all contributed some intense personal poems. There's also a short short-story by Colin Webb, and a few bits & pieces about the authors and the small press. (D-48) (pj)

★★★★★

Kevin Seconds, **YO, TAMBIEN** ($4 from Gangbox Press, PO Box 9184, Reno, NV 89507): Bits of free verse, artwork and diary writing from a journal Kevin kept while his band 7 Seconds was on the road. Much of it is cynical, about the state of the nation, love, or the poetry itself. But there are also flashes of love and hope, and enough insights to keep the pages going by. For a catalog from Gangbox, send an SASE to the address above. (D-23) (MG)

★★★★★

SICK ROOF #4 (SASE from Mumbles, PO Box 8312, Wichita, Kansas 67208): Although billed as a "*Journal* of Humorous, Pathetic, and Serious Poetry," its single photocopied page (folded in half) makes me want to call it a broadsheet. Regardless of the label, the alternately playful and earnest poems fit the bill. "No Sideburns for Pete" was probably the most ridiculous, competing with "2:22 AM" for best overall. Oh yeah, it's definitely pathetic in places. (D-4) (pj)

★★★★★

SKIN & BONES PRESENTS A POETRY READING (SASE from PO Box 49245, Austin, TX 78765): A leftover from a live poetry reading featuring Greg Gauntner, David Jewelll, Isabella Russell-Ides, and John Wright. Of the samples presented here, I like Isabella's best, a manic allegory of love and life. (M-8r) (MG)

★★★★★

SOLO FLYER #10 ($3/8 issues from David McCoy, 2115 Clearview NE, Massillon, OH 44646): The pricing info is based on previous issues, though it's now billed as a "non-subscription publication," whatever that means. However you do it, try and get a hold of this issue, comprised solely of Marion Cohen's poem "The Big Hate." This piece is about a little man Marion carries around in her customized psychological baggage: "He's my veto./He's my power./He's my NO./The only NO I've got." Unnerving introspection. Also received a separate flyer w/an essay by D. McCoy on poetry as a Folk Art. (D-4) (pj)

★★★★★

STAR*LINE Vol. 12 #2-3 ($8/yr from Chuck and Susan Noe Rothman, 2012 Pyle Road, Schenectady, NY 12303): The newsletter of the Science Fiction Poetry Association — thus it combines poetry with reviews and news of the field, which is slowly winning respectability in SF circles. In #2, Jeff Lewis' poem "Anne Marie" stayed with me the longest. It recounts a high-school cheerleader and sports-star's "perfect" relationship from a unique, eerie perspective. Of note in #3 are a 5-line universe from Tom Riley, a wistful effort from Graham Collins, and some almost-working 3-way collaborations among Dumars, Mecklem & Stewart. (D-18t) (pj/MG)

★★★★★

SWAMP ROOT #2/3 ($5 from Route 2, Box 1098, Hiwassee One, Jacksboro, TN 37757): A featured poet, tons more poetry, photographs of junk-yard icons, fiction, and damned-good reviewer. Doesn't seem like you can count on these folks to publish often; do, however, count on them to publish well. K. Taylor is featured with 14 poems. Generally from the 1st person, these works find the author "in search of" and soon have the reader looking, too. (D-99) (pj)

★★★★★

Kristen Ban Tepper & Luigi-Bob Drake, **2 FORMS** ($2.50 from Burning Press, PO Box 18817, Cleveland Hts, OH 44118): Collaborative work to produce a set of linked poems in a Japanese style, very sparse and imagistic, and 3 sonnets featuring a rearrangement of words. This is indirect poetry, the stuff of feelings rather than encyclopedias, and a bit hard to get one's teeth into. (D-7t) (MG)

★★★★★

THIS IS IMPORTANT #15 (Donation from F.A. Nettelbeck, c/o Illuminati, PO Box 67E07, Los Angeles, CA 90067): A pocket-sized collection of short & strange works, suitable for sneaking a peek at in the middle of your working day. Poetic bites this time come from Greg Evason, John Bennett, and William Burrughs, among others. (MM-8) (MG)

★★★★★

Daniel Thompson, **FAMOUS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD** ($5 from Burning Press, PO Box 18817, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118): Daniel leads off one of his poems with "This is the country of those gone mad", and that's a thought which goes all through his work, even into the love poems. Mostly, though, these are protests against a system that is poised to destroy people. "Ground Zero: Downtown Cleveland" offers a unique and depressing perspective on nuclear war. (D-40t)

★★★★★

Cheryl Townsend, **NOT ALL MEN HAVE BEEN, DANCIN' ON YOUR FINGERS, AN ORDINARY GIRL,** and **SPECIAL ORDERS TO GO** ($1 or so from 4975 Comanche Trail, Stow, Ohio 44224) Received a bunch of wild stuff from Cheryl, aka Cat. The 1st chapbook (put out by Limited Editions Press) contains 17 brief poems which move thematically from bitter romance/relationship to sultry, graphic sex. The other stuff is equally hot and heavy. $3 oughta get you a selection of these goodies. (D-8) (pj)

★★★★★

TROPIC OF FAT TUESDAY ($5 from F.M. Cotolo, 2839 Blue Brick Dr., Donelson, TN 37214): Dedicated to Henry Miller, this is a collection of, as the editor puts it, erotica and neurotica. A bunch of the usual suspects show up: Cheryl Townsend, M. Kettner, Chuck Taylor, and Hal J. Daniel (3 lines, but oh what a three lines!) among them. For me the most exciting poem came from Kathleen K., whose "I'm The Type", buried in the back, rang very true to my own thoughts on the matter. (D-37) (MG)

★★★★★

Ralph E. Vaughan, **A DARKNESS UPON MY MIND** ($1.50 from 353 Oxford St., Chula Vista, CA 92011): A collection of science fictional, horror and fantastic poems by Ralph, who has mastered the art of blending ideas and verse. Of especial note here is "Sailing the Helium Sea", an eerie tale of a space exploration gone awry, which packs a lot into its two-page span. (D-16) (MG)

★★★★★

VILE (50¢ (?) from 2288 Hawk, Simi Valley, CA 93065): A collection of poetry and art form the publisher of LIFE IS A JOKE. Most of this stuff is pretty downbeat. Drugs, fascism, hangovers, lists of Bad Things. (M-8) (MG)

★★★★★

Jason Walters, **ADDITIONAL LIES** (45¢ SASE from 526 Haight St., San Francisco, CA 94117): A mini-chapbook of "poetry about San Francisco". This is a whirling kaleidoscope of images of the city and the citizens, gradually moving from the former to the latter, all assembled as one longish poem. Towards the end, with "Deadly is the eye's embrace/For it betrays one's dark desires", we seem to have slipped into Everyman and Everycity. (M-20r) (MG)

★★★★★

Jason Walters, **NEGATIVE INSIGHT** (45¢ SASE from 526 Haight St., San Francisco, CA 94117): A collection of 21 numbered poems "dealing with the break between self and existence". They're a pretty downer bunch, looking hard at the world and finding only "All things are pointless illusions/to be cast aside by the all-embracing warmth/of light". But the search for meaning continues to evade the poet as he chases it through these pages. (M-22r) (MG)

★★★★★

Peter Warner, **A SONG TO DIE BY** ($1 from PO Box 2581, Times Square Stn., New York, NY 10108): A selection of love poetry, much of it concerned with the pain of relationships that break up or are on their way to doing so. The speaker is entangled in life with no escape except anger, and it comes through in these short raw phrases no matter how much ostensible affection there is on the surface. A cry against an uncaring universe. (D-14r) (MG)

★★★★★

WE #10 ($5 from PO Box 1503, Santa Cruz, CA 95061): The poetry styles here move from the locomotive-type explicit to the ghost-type abstract. There's names that I've seen often, but only recently and almost always in real quality publications. The graphics are polished in places and raw to the point of Vonnegut's sketches in *BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS* — replete with penis and anus. If wavering, the soft-colored cover should push you over the edge. (S-42t) (pj)

★★★★★

Paul Weinman, **AGING, PARENT SAYS 'NUTS' TO LEFTOVERS** ($2 (?) from Box 414, Whitby, Ontario, Canada L1N 5S4): Something different from Paul, whose "White Boy" poems are spreading rapidly through the underground. This is sort of very blank verse, snapshots of a mother and father deteriorating into senility as their child stands helplessly by, unable to do more than cope. Collaged words and strange layouts help enforce the sense of uncertainty generated by the poems themselves. (S-22) (MG)

★★★★★

Paul Weinman, **PACK YOUR POCKET FULL OF WHITE BOY** ($1 (?) from Minotaur Press, PO Box 4094, Burlingame, CA 94011): A plastic pocket protector filled with a selection of Paul's "White Boy" chapbooks. White Boy is becoming sort of a small press archetype, the schmuck who always gets in trouble trying to help out because he doesn't understand the world. Titles include TEEN SEX, HOMELESS MESS, THE WHITE BOY PAPERS, SUCK IT UP, HAVE A COKE, and LITTERLY. (M-48r) (MG)

★★★★★

Paul Weinman, **WHITE BOY'S PITCH** ($1 (?) from Box 129, Richford, Vermont 05476): Half these poems are in the now-common White Boy (WB) format (preamble/choice list/conclusion) and half are short simple poems. Baseball is the common thread, the juxtaposing formats allowing WB to play devilishly with the quirks of the game. For you virgins, here's a taste: "Concerned about peace in the Middle East, White Boy: 1. writes to the PLO and Israel; 2. suggests they start a baseball league..." WB embraces the simple. (D- 12) (pj)

★★★★★

Gail D. Whitter, **13 STONES, BRIEF FLUTTER OF WINGS,** and **LOVE BITES** ($1/set from 3389 William St., Vancouver, BC, V5K 2Z4, CANADA): Three small pamphlets of poetry put out by the Northern Poetry Conspiracy. 13 STONES is a collection of haiku with both natural and human images. BRIEF FLUTTER OF WINGS is a movable poem, a sheet of paper which literally unfolds with its brief message. LOVE BITES is simple love poetry, heavy on natural imagery and inventive metaphor. Gail has a simple & direct style which works well in these small chunks. (S-3)

★★★★★

WORLD OF NUTS ($1 (?) from Bob Z, c/o Sarris Bookmarketing, 125 E. 23rd Street, NY, NY 10010): The latest mini-chapbook from the folks who put out BAD NEWZ. There's around 15 poems, generally placed in and around complementary graphics. Paul Weinman's White Boy offers what is probably the best piece. The remainder works because of its rebellious spirit. (M-24) (pj)

★★★★★

John Wright, RED MEAT ($3 (?) from Slough Press, PO Box 1385, Austin, TX 78767): John has got the rhythm of poetry down cold. You can just hear a voice, the archetypical poet's reading voice, dragging through these lines, stepping lightly ahead to the next part of the perfect beat. Whether it's the title tale of the romance of the steer or the meaning of sunglasses or feral children running wild in industrial skyscrapers, the talent here is enough to transfix. (D-52t) (MG)

★★★★★

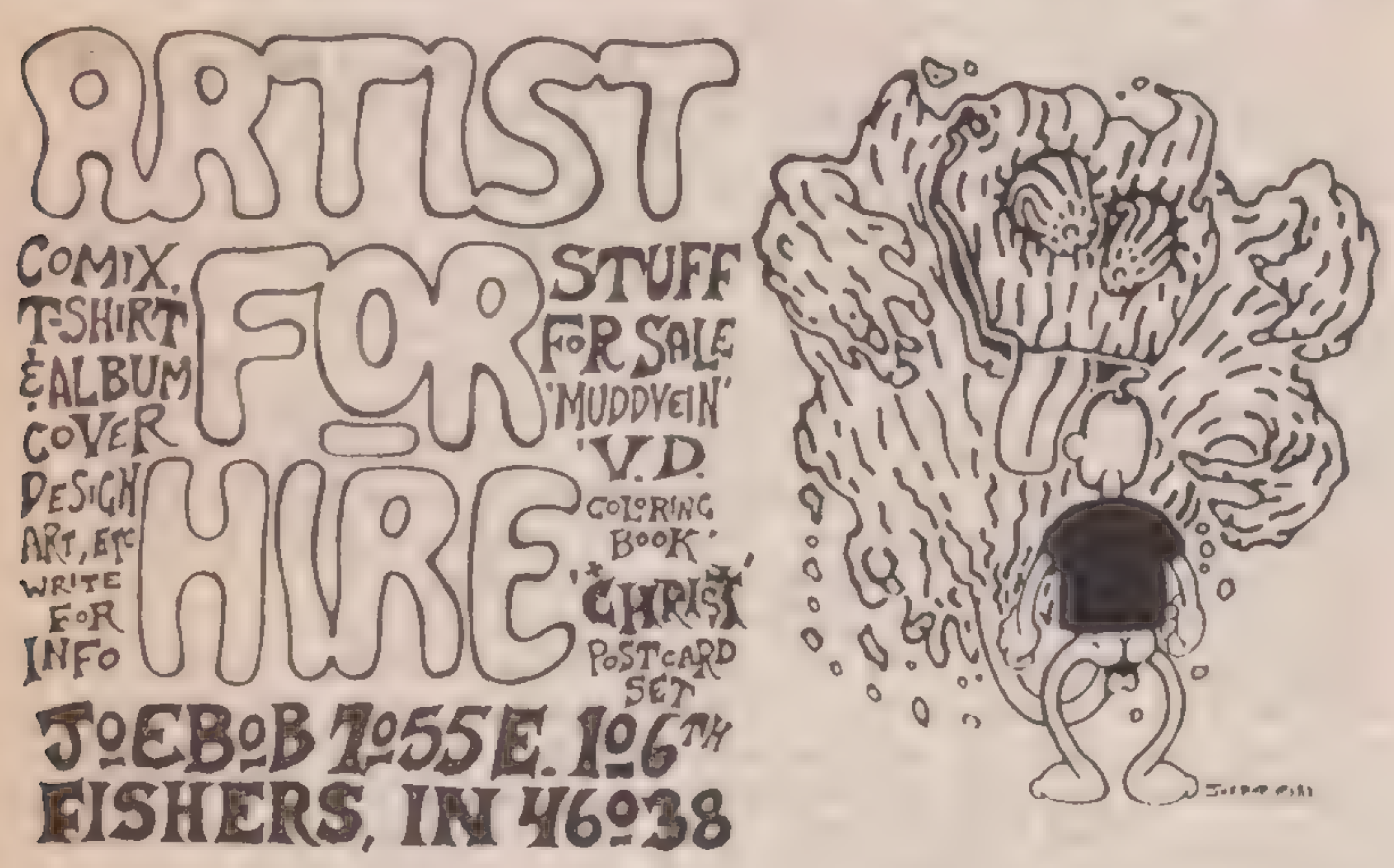
Bob Z., TEST-TUBE MARGINAL ($4 from Artists & Writers Underground, c/o Sarris Bookmarketing, 125 E. 23rd St. #300, New York, NY 10010): With illustrations by Scott Cunningham, this is a collection of Bob's poetic attacks on the system. "Buckets of Greed Feed America", "Blood Was All Over the Place", "Torpedoed": tales of love and life in New York, with an eye that's not afraid to see and describe dirt. This is a preliminary version; Bob is looking for a publisher to do the final book, so drop him a line if that's you. (S-32) (MG)

POETRY NOTES

•ADASTRA PRESS (101 Strong St., Easthampton, MA 01027) sent a flyer listing their letterpress offerings, including works from Miriam Sagan and Merritt Clifton. Try an SASE for a copy.

•CAFE ARMAGEDDON is sponsoring a poetry contest, minimum of 3 poems under 25 lines each, $1 fee for each three poems, $100 first prize. For more details write to 2008 Oxford, Austin, TX 78704.

•Steven Defoe (PO Box 451, Collinsville, CT 06022) has a stack of unpublished poems he wants to share with anyone who wants to read them. For an SASE he'll send you four somewhat gritty poems, if the selection I got is anything to judge by.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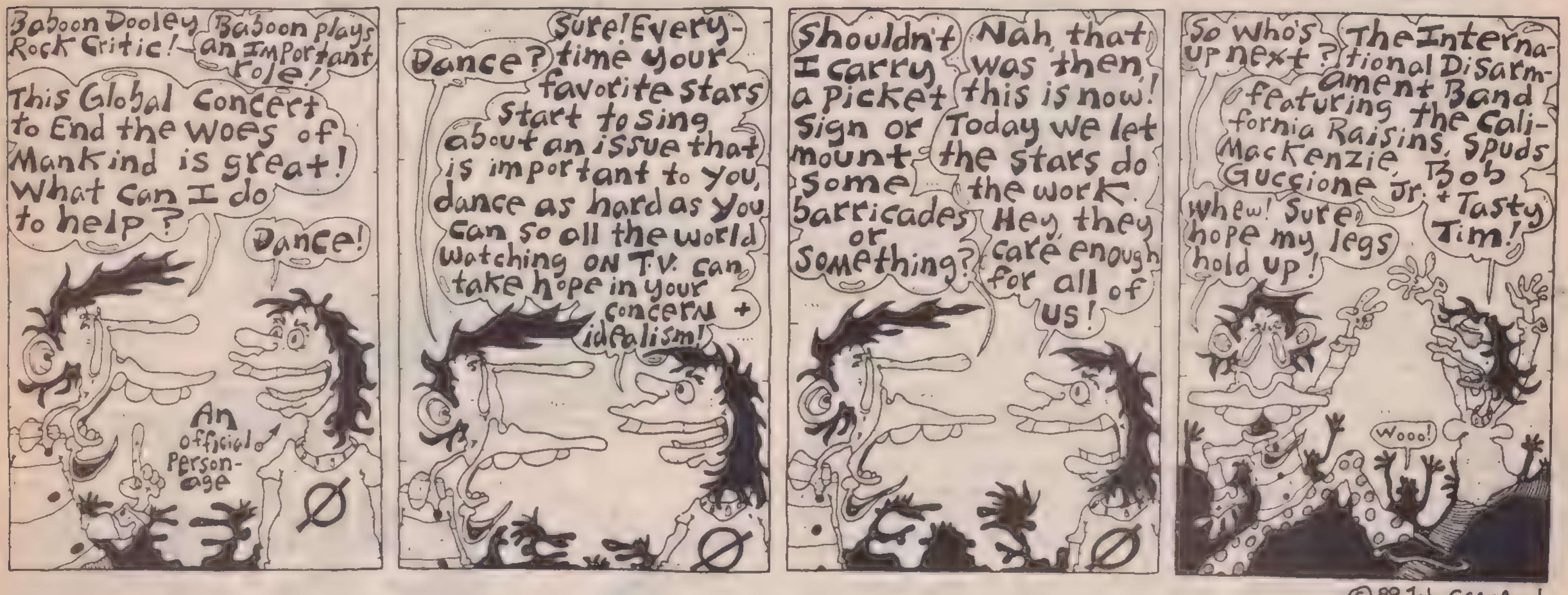
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Sure! Everytime your favorite stars start to sing about an issue that is important to you, dance as hard as you can so all the world watching on T.V. can take hope in your concern + idealism!
Shouldn't I carry a picket sign or mount some barricades or something?
Nah, that was then, this is now! Today we let the stars do the work. Hey, they care enough for all of us!
So who's up next?
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Whew! Sure hope my legs hold up!
Wooo!

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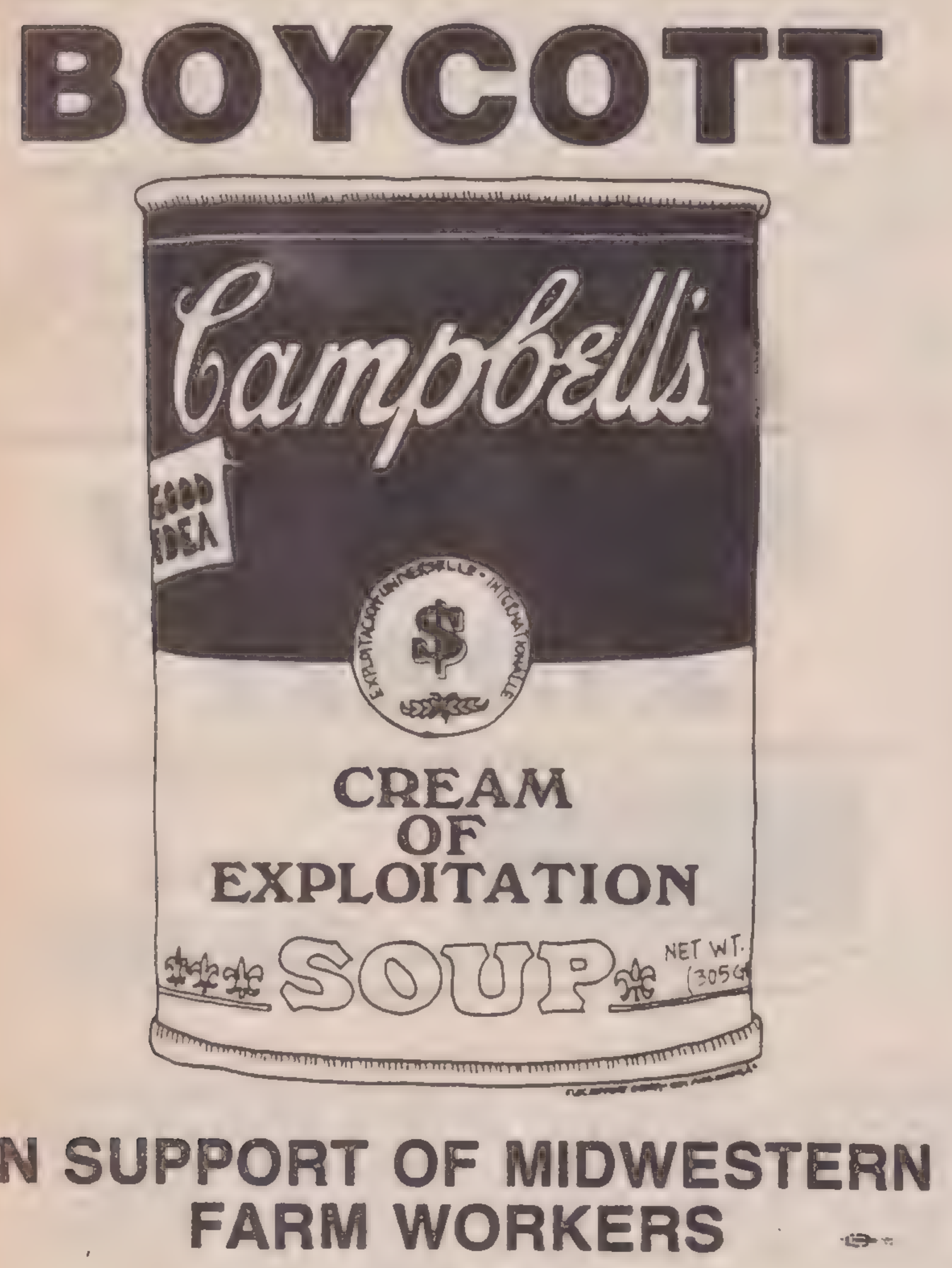
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IN SUPPORT OF MIDWESTERN FARM WORKERS

by Stephen Perkins

Xerox and Street Art

"Serious artists at work within the core of a technological culture, or at its periphery, bootleg copy-power to undermine attribution and accumulation of conventional authority, rooting through the rotting flesh in the constant harrowing of absolution. Amen."

(Harry Polkinhorn, Photostatic Magazine, #25/26, 1987)

Street art is an art of dissent, the samizdat of an autonomous culture that's "...rooting through the rotting flesh." Arguably, Martin Luther establishes this tradition of dissent when, on October 31st, 1517, he went out into the streets of his town and nailed a poster detailing his 95 points of dissent with the teachings of the church onto the door of Wittenberg Castle church. In a similar, but no less heretical spirit, punk culture recycled and re-combined society's cherished icons into the xerox re-mix and shoved them back into its face from every telephone pole and hoarding it could find.

Street art is a broad category, so for the purposes of this article, my definition of street art is anything that is xeroxed, displayed in public, and publicizes subject matter that falls within the following three categories: (1) cultural events (art/music/poetry/performance etc.); (2) political alerts (meetings/demonstrations/calls to action); (3) individual rants (not necessarily publicity for a particular event). I will be concentrating primarily on the first category since it comprises a high percentage of xeroxed street art.

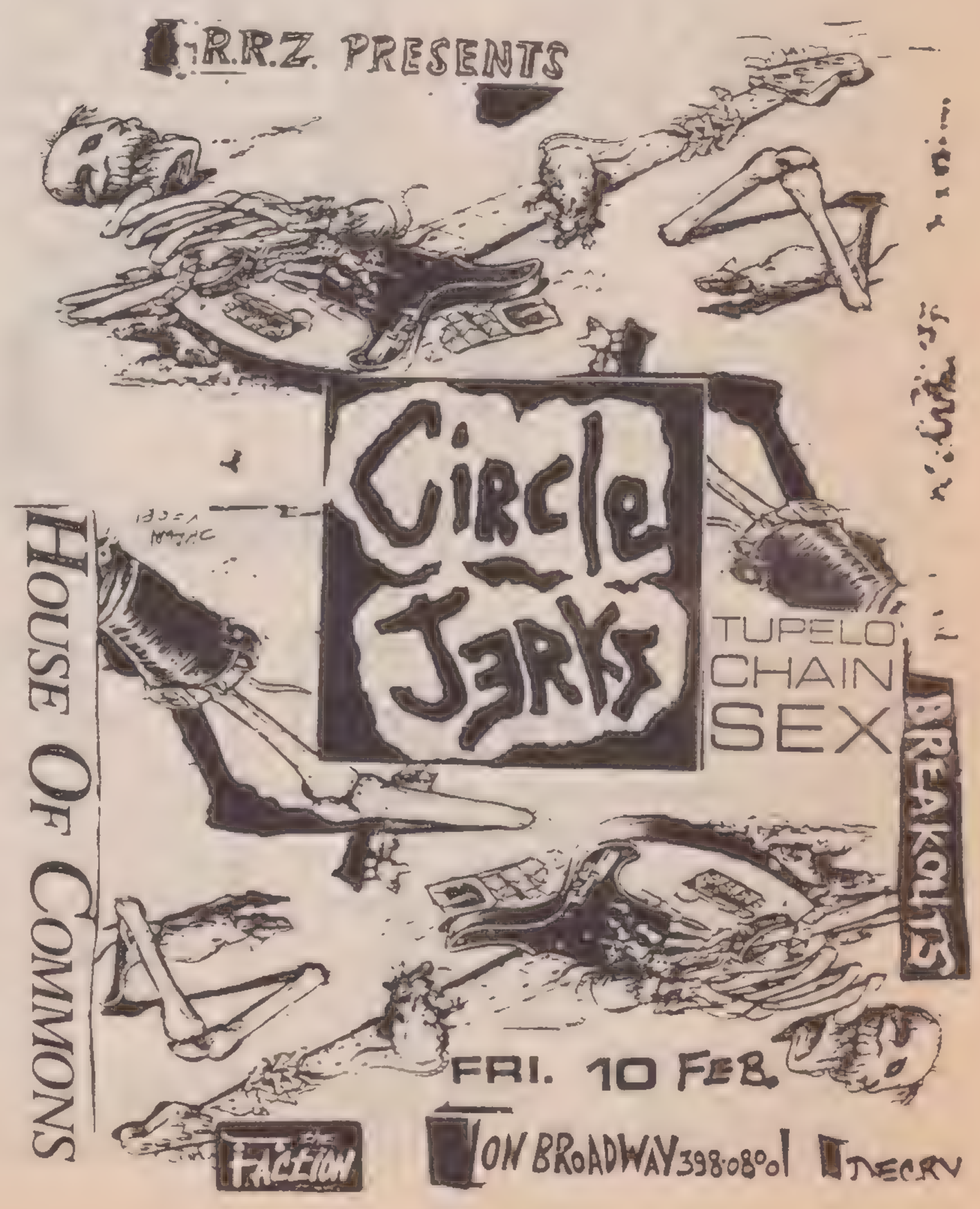
Transient by its very nature and, at its most basic, a time, a place and a name, street art has been described as many things from ephemera, propaganda to visual litter and xerox trash. Either way, its out there in the open, pasted, stapled, taped, glued or somehow fixed to the surface in question. And if you haven't been out postering to publicize your band's next gig, your upcoming performance piece, or the demonstration planned for the South American dictator who's passing through town, then you'll miss at least half of what this article is about. Street art is an urban phenomenon, sink or swim.

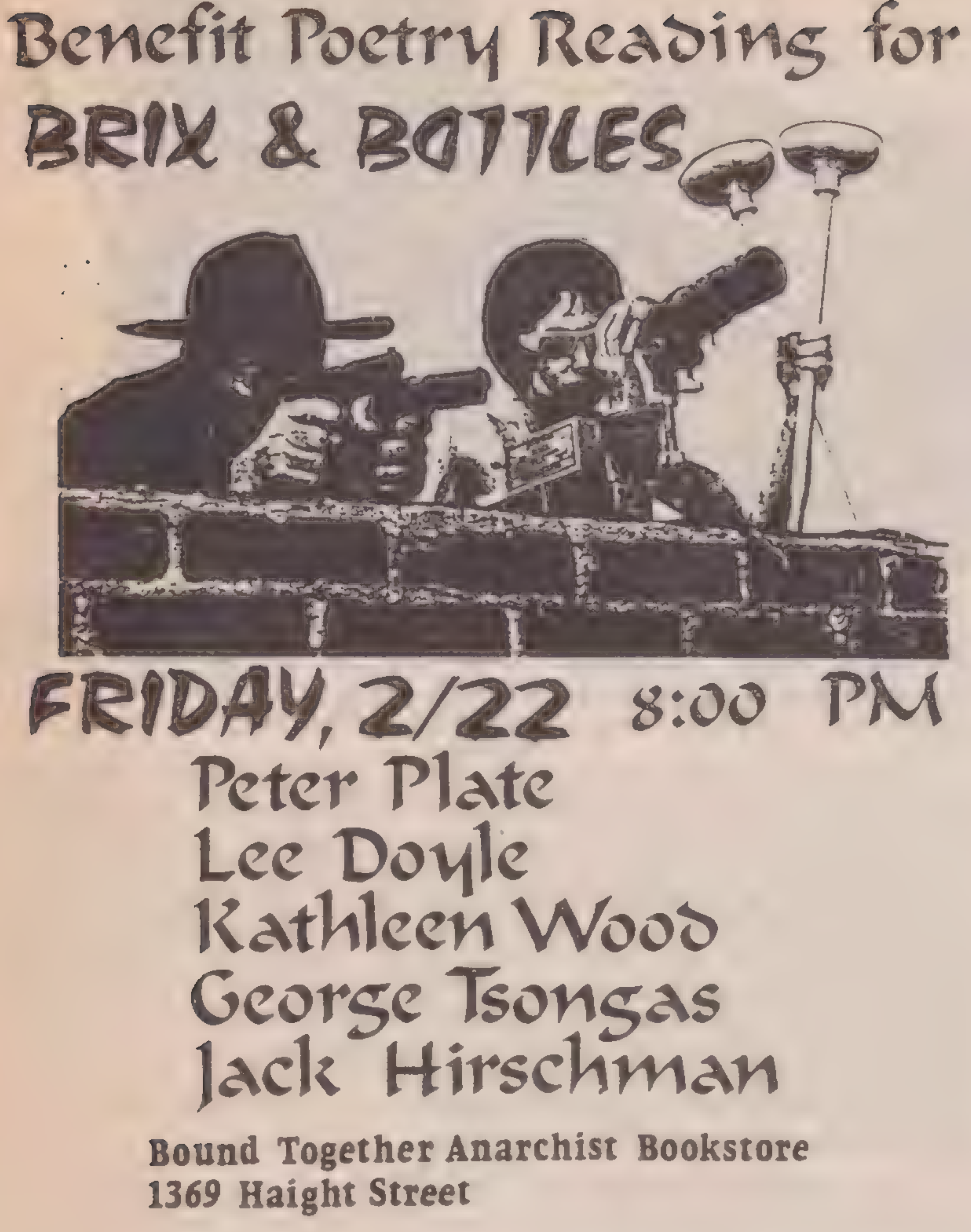
It's ironic that Chester Carlson (xerography's inventor) had serious thoughts in his early youth of becoming an artist, since his invention has been received so enthusiastically by artists, indeed it has spawned a whole new era in imagemaking and in the case of street art a whole new medium. Naturally, Carlson did not invent xerography for the arts community, but having worked for a printers in his teens and briefly publishing his own amateur chemist's magazine, he was clearly appreciative of some of the problems inherent in this field, "....this experience did impress me with the difficulty of getting words into hard copy and this, in turn started me thinking about duplicating processes."

If artists have benefited from Carlson's invention, so did the company that stuck its neck out and developed what would later become know as xerography (literally 'dry writing'). The success of the Xerox Corporation and its more recent restructuring in the face of Japanese competition makes fascinating reading for anyone interested in corporate history and strategy. However, success does have its restrictions as the following statement from the Xerox Corporation makes clear. "The Xerox trade name and trademark are among the most valuable assets we have..... If through popular misuse, the word Xerox is generally adopted as the common name or generic term for something, it can lose its unique value as has already happened with once valuable trademarks such as aspirin, mimeograph, escalator, and others... The Xerox trademark should be used as a proper adjective followed by the generic name of the product, such as Xerox copier or Xerox printer." Well, let me be the first to inform the Xerox Corporation that its too late, for the word 'xerox' passed into the vernacular many years ago.

Let's leave the corporate side of the xerox industry and take a look at what's happening on the underbelly of this phenomenon, within the 'subcultural' or 'underground' milieu. Obviously any artist with two eyes and half a brain, and who's not intimidated by technology grasps very quickly the vistas that open up when speculating upon the opportunities afforded by the xerox machine. It doesn't take long to realize that our entire gene pool of texts and images can now be spread out on the platen to be ransacked, reproduced and disseminated at a speed and economy never previously known. Access to this technology completely bypasses the traditional printshop, with all the censorship and constraints this involves, and allows the street artist complete autonomy over the production and subject matter of the final poster. Everything becomes grist for the xerox re-mix to be unleashed for a new assault on the senses.

More a camera than a printer, the xerox machine is the ideal, if not unwitting accomplice to this underground culture. With a couple of dollars in your pocket you're in the publishing business, push a button and you can have ten copies as easily as one thousand. For the band in a rush to publicize their gig, the activist responding to some world event, the artist publicizing his/her latest exhibition, the only thing between the pasted-up image and every telephone pole in the neighborhood is the walk to the xerox store. It's the ultimate user-friendly machine (there's even something comforting about carrying that stack of warm copies in your hands as you walk out into the street).





Benefit Poetry Reading for

BRIX & BOTTLES

FRIDAY, 2/22 8:00 PM

Peter Plate
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It's inevitable in a commodity culture such as this one that the street artist should utilize the inherently subversive and anti-authoritarian potential of what is basically an anti-copyright machine. Thus, it comes as no great surprise to discover that most street artists do not sign their work, making it one of the few 'art forms' where the rewards of authorship are subsumed in deference to the project at hand. And besides, who wants to draw undue attention to themselves when the final poster is more than likely to be a combination of outright plagiarism, blatant misappropriation, coupled with subject matter and text that is likely to be offensive to at least some segment of the population.

Acquiring the xeroxes for the final postering run can very often involve similar strategies as used in creating them. I personally know of quite a few large downtown corporations who have unwittingly donated quite substantial numbers of xeroxes to publicize a variety of local underground cultural events. This all-pervasive activity might best be called 'bootleg corporate sponsorship.' Having acquired the xeroxes, different people will have different methods for postering depending on, when they are putting them up (day/night), how they are putting them up (paste/glue/staples etc..), whether they are going to be postering in officially sanctioned areas or not, how many posters they have, and of course the subject matter of the posters. Naturally, getting arrested or harassed by the mayor's office (as has happened in recent years in San Francisco) are just minor irritants in the street artist's oeuvre. Postering involves a very direct relationship with other people's property and as a consequence the street artist runs the risk of encountering the forces that protect both public and private property.

Street art's relationship to 'gentrification' illustrates well another aspect of postering's relationship to property. Most street art is found in the poorer inner city districts simply because the audience for many of these events live there, because they have a high level of pedestrian traffic, and finally because there are more places to poster (empty shops/buildings, construction sites, community billboards etc..). It's not surprising therefore, that aside from real estate agents, the street artist is one of the first people to feel the effects of gentrification and neighborhood development. Places to poster literally start disappearing as empty buildings get renovated, new shops open up, vacant lots get developed and the newly formed merchants association takes a tough stand on postering. Gentrification and all it stands for is clearly the enemy of street art.

From a slightly broader perspective it becomes clear that the xerox machine is now an indispensable link in the new information economy. Coupled with its speed and low cost, it plays an essential part in maintaining the flow and structure of the corporate commodification of information. But this is a game that can be played both ways, for it is also clear that the xerox machine can nurture a quite different, antithetical and, autonomous culture.

Street artists create their work with a healthy disdain for the corporate nature of this information economy and, through such strategies as plagiarism, re-combination and 'bootleg corporate sponsorship,' utilize the xerox machine as a tool to detourn and disrupt the proprietary edifices that lie at the heart of commodity culture. Finally, the irony and, indeed, humor of a situation in which a machine that was developed for and by business, being used to undermine the very system that spawned it, is naturally not lost on street artists and xerox fanatics.

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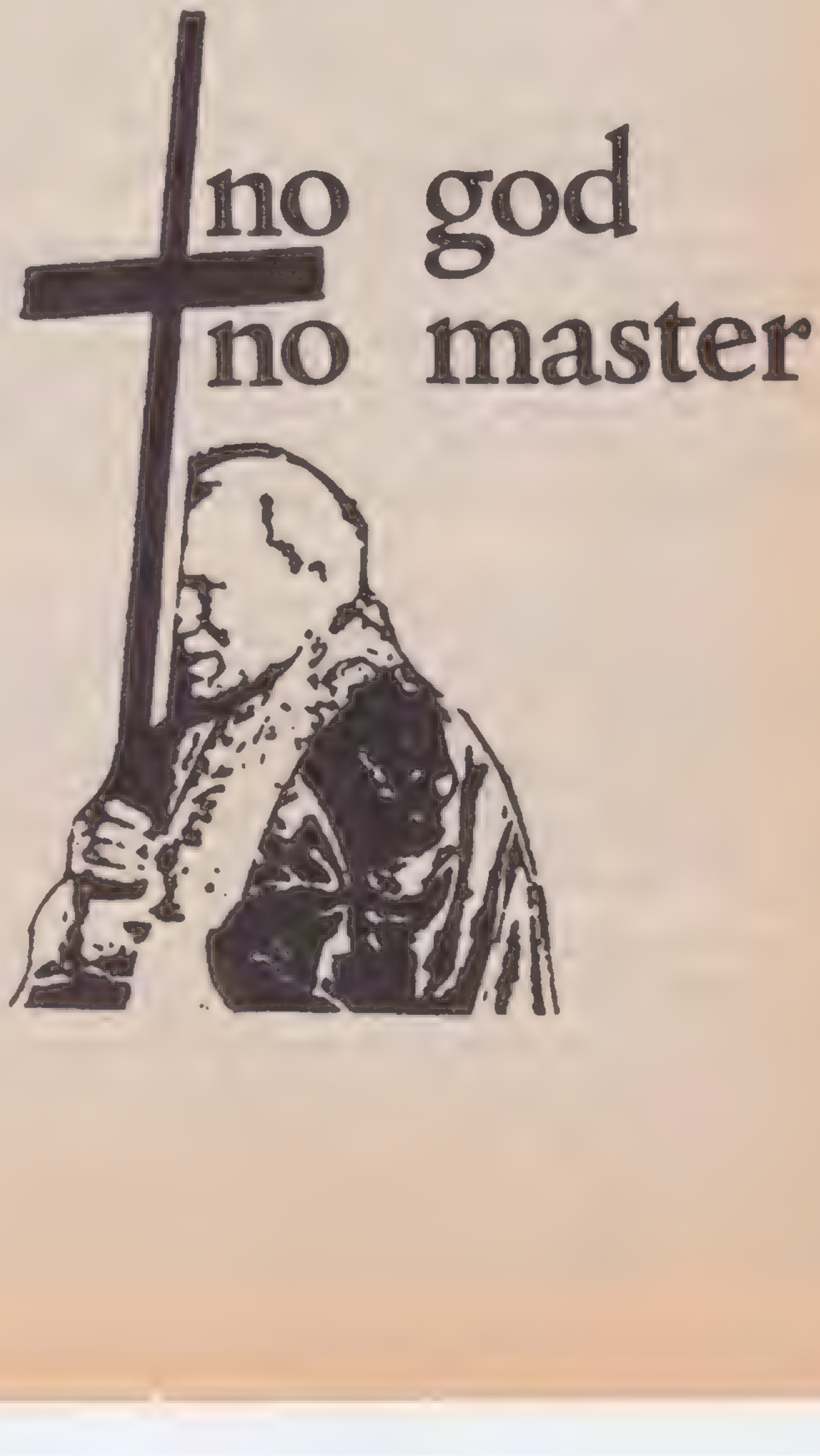
Notes

(1) This article is very much a 'work in progress,' your input and suggestions are welcomed.

(2)If you are writing/creating work in this area you are invited to submit to a forthcoming sourcebook titled Copy Culture, a collaboration between myself (ed. Box of Water) & Lloyd Dunn (ed. Photostatic). SASE for more info: Copy Culture, 1031 York St., S.F., CA 94110.

(3) Apologies to the street artists whose work I have used and not credited.

(4) I have been collecting San Francisco xerox posters for the past 10 years and am willing to trade in kind for posters from your area. See (1) for my address.



All tapes are VHS unless otherwise indicated. Feel free to send more VHS tapes for review in future issues. Reviews are by Belka Stamas (BS) or the Aeditor (MG).

★★★★★

ANIMAL PROTECTION ($14.95 from Video-SIG, 1030-C E. Duane Ave., Dept. FS-5, Sunnyvale, CA 94086): A very strong video, in both content and impact. This 105-minute film is actually a collection of short subjects from PETA, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. They feature footage, mostly taken in secret, of animals being improperly treated or simply tortured in the name of product safety, research, and teaching. Among the included segments are film recovered in the Animal Liberation Front raid on the notorious University of Pennsylvania head injury lab, as well as film shot on several other ALF raids. There are also undercover photos from a product-testing lab and a research lab, both showing utter disregard for the most basic humane treatment. But the most stomach-wrenching footage here is from a "dog lab", a training exercise for medical students, in which an lightly anesthetized dog (you can hear him whining until the tracheotomy is performed) is hacked apart with scalpels, garden shears and the instructor's bare hands. Whatever you think of animal research in general, this film will convince you that much needless cruelty goes on under the guise of science. (MG)

★★★★★

ASHES TO ASHES (Contact Willie McGuigan, 1218 Shackamaxon St., Philadelphia, PA 19125): This is a fine example of what happens when an abstract painter or craftsman goes technical. The visuals here are somewhat representative of the late 70s mescaline/valium buzz and considering the theme is the effects of death and dying on the living that's perfectly understandable. I watched this four times and got something different out of it each time so you might say there is a literary quality to it. Although this might be considered experimental, it's not because it's not what grant people call experimental. Lots of nice subtle messages — would do well on Experimental Access or in an art house. Runs seven minutes. (BS)

★★★★★

ELEVATOR GIRLS IN BONDAGE ($14.95 from Video-SIG, 1030-C E. Duane Ave., Dept. FS-5, Sunnyvale, CA 94086): An incredibly stupid and pointless film. The plot, such as it is, revolves around a batch of poor elevator girls in a sleazy hotel and their attempts to make a living wage. Along the way we get some quick bondage scenes, one mildly hardcore sex scene, lots of transvestites, bathtub frolics, gangster involvement, a giant lizard, and Communist unions. The voices are all ineptly dubbed, without the slightest attempt to lip-sync, and the continuity is nonexistent. I can only conclude that, like **KILLER TOMATOES**, this was deliberately made to be a cult film. (MG)

★★★★★

ENDANGERED SPECIES ($14.95 from Video-SIG, 1030-C E. Duane Ave., Dept. FS-5, Sunnyvale, CA 94086): A short peek into the world of the underground artists in the San Francisco area. It touches briefly on a lot of things: substandard loft living conditions, playing or ignoring the grant game, what happens when an artist finally needs a real job (the brief chat with some ex-dancers is heartrending) and the difficulties of just making it, for example. Along the way there are a few gentle (and not-so-gentle) pokes at the Arts Establishment. Includes bits with Mark Pauline of SRL and Jello Biafra. I only wish there were more depth here; 26 minutes does not begin to do justice to the subject. (MG)

★★★★★

FORCED ENTRY ($28 [specify Beta/VHS; add $1..75 tax in CA] from Norm Orschnorschki, Executive Penthouse Suite #61, 2124 Kittredge St., Berkeley, CA 94704): A wonderful parody film, easily one of the best video releases I've seen. The subject is the Neighborhood Vigilance Committee, a sort of Neighborhood Watch group from Moral Majority land. The film first depicts the idyllic conditions in Lynchburg, thanks to strong law enforcement, and then shows what you're in for if you *don't* have such things. "VictiVision" is used to put the viewer in the place of a young girl who gets abducted, abused, drugged and otherwise mistreated by a pack of degenerates, interspersed with haranguing from the Rt. Honorable Justice Jim "Stonewall" Jackson, charman of the NWC. "Shock-A-Rama" is also used to emphasize key points in the movie, and its use will definitely send you jumping to the ceiling. All in all, wonderfully cheesy, right down to the awful bouncy background music and the sometimes-glacial pace. Perhaps the only drawback is that those being parodied are likely to not realize there is anything tongue-in-cheek about this production. (MG)

★★★★★

GORGON VIDEO MAGAZINE Vol. 1 ($19.95 suggested retail from MPI Home Video, 15825 Rob Roy Dr., Oak Forest, IL 60452; call 1-800-323-0442 to order): A professionally-produced bimonthly video magazine for the gore addict. Hosted by Michael Berryman, this first edition leads off with an interview with director Wes Craven (Nightmare on Elm Street, The Hills Have Eyes). Later on we meet Linnea Quigley for a short interview, followed by a tour of the Troma studios. Rick Sullivan (from GORE GAZETTE) presents some video reviews, and a Gwar concert adds a musical touch. Unfortunately there's some padding needed to make the 69-minute running time: bits of old movies under the guise of a drive-in retrospective and trailers from horror films that aren't even out yet. A fair amount of blood and a few frontal nude shots make this unsuitable for anyone with good taste. (MG)

★★★★★

THE HUNGRY DUTCHMEN, "None of Us Are Dutch...But We're All Hungry!" ($7 from Black Tulip Records, 56 Cleveland Ave., Nutley, NJ 07110): Three professional-quality music videos from this pop band, interspersed with a bit of interview footage. The first, "Alone on a Saturday Night", won the February 1987 MTV Basement Tapes Award; it's a cute little love song. "Goin' Crazee!" is as bizarre as its name, an excuse to film a vast amount of antisocial behaviour on the part of one band member. But my favorite is the charming "Lookin' For Santa", which I also enjoyed as a single, a Christmas song that avoids being overly sappy or overly cynical at the same time. A nice addition to my video library. (MG)

★★★★★

IAO CORE, "Gaia Footbridge" (? from 326 Dogwood Dr., Walnut Creek, CA 94598): Heavily-processed experimental/industrial noise music video — and quite good stuff. The music here is an assault on the senses, from distressing poetry to clanging bashes and everything in between. The video is rampant with false color, mirror images, stop action and other tricks. Even better, some of the pieces have a point, such as "The 'M' Appeal" and its views on sadistic violence, or "Spinthariscope", which examines man's wretched treatment of the natural world. 7 short videos in all, plus footage from a couple of live shows which look to be quite trippy experiences in themselves. (MG)

★★★★★

IMPACT VIDEO MAGAZINE Vol. 1 ($19.95 suggested retail from MPI Home Video, 15825 Rob Roy Dr., Oak Forest, IL 60452; call 1-800-323-0442 to order): A fast-paced video mag hosted by Alex Winter, dedicated to presenting some of the things ignored by the mainstream media. It's a well-mixed bag presented at lightning speed, from the Public Enemy interview/story that opens it up to the "19-inch Nightmare" closing segment, reserved for *your* worst home video. In between there's a chat with underground artist Robert Williams, bits of a Jane's addiction concert, scatological political commentary from Bill Hicks, a Butthole Surfers video I guarantee you'll never see on MTV, house music, and some great Survival Research Labs footage. About the only dud segment features **VILLAGE VOICE** geek Michael Musto vamping about the wonders of NYC club nightlife. It's all broken up by short cartoons, including Marv Newman's classic "Bambi Meets Godzilla". Polished but still close to what it's covering, this is worth having a look at. (MG)

★★★★★

KIRK-O-MATIC VIDEO ART ($14.95 from Video-SIG, 1030-C E. Duane Ave., Dept. FS-5, Sunnyvale, CA 94086): One hour of video by Kirk Hunter, consisting of multiple audio tracks and multiple video tracks, all mixed together into a lump of "video wallpaper". The audio and the video are both mixes of found stuff and stuff apparently done for this production. Mostly it all happens literally too fast to see; blink and something different is going on. (The exception is a section where Ollie North's testimony is chopped up and put back together to make him look like even more of a jerk). The video tends to have 3 or 4 things going on at once, with multipl transparent overlays and lots of false-color processing. (MG)

★★★★★

NIGHTWATCH ($14.95 from Video-SIG, 1030-C E. Duane Ave., Dept. FS-5, Sunnyvale, CA 94086): I can't say a whole lot about this one, other than that it's a good example of the breadth of films that Video-SIG stocks. This is a documentary of a night shift at an ambulance company — in Amsterdam. Inasmuch as it's neither dubbed nor subtitled, that's about all I can tell you. (MG)

★★★★★

THE OUTLAW ($14.95 from Video-SIG, 1030-C E. Duane Ave., Dept. FS-5, Sunnyvale, CA 94086): Video-SIG carries a great many classics at this price; this just happens to be the one they sent me to have a look at. This 1943 flick romanticizes the adventures of Billy the Kid, Doc Holliday and Pat Garrett, throwing in an improbably intelligent horse and Jane Russell as a deep-breathing but historically unlikely love interest. Send 'em $5 for their catalog if you'd like to see the whole spectrum of b&w films they stock. (MG)

★★★★★

QUAYLE (LIVE 89) (Esync Ocular Interchange, PO Box 380621, Miami, FL 33238-0621): Music video that is more than just shots of the band interspersed with T&A. This is new electronic music played by a guitarist and a keyboard whiz (who may be Esync artist King Felix, although I got absolutely no presskit to give me hints) in a studio playing five or so compositions. Sounds dull, but it isn't, thanks to quick-changing video work that is every bit as exciting and textured as the rich full music. Pixillation, contour mapping, lots of false color, stop-action, video feedback and other effects are used well, in a rapid-fire cascade which makes for a colorful show. Should be a lesson to all those geeks on MTV. (MG)

★★★★★

SELECTED SHORTS: 1985-1989 (Not for sale, but available for access and gallery screenings, from Debra Geissel, 4057 NE 88th, Seattle, WA 98125): This tape proves there's more to Seattle than the Space Needle and the original Skid Row. Two shorts included in this package are music videos. One's a live sequence of Big Black in which the guitarists all do mid-sixties Pete Townsend guitar smashes on the amps and the state floor. The other musical piece is of the F Holes. This video has a lot of technically injected snow on the image and a pace much like a Monkees clip. I liked them both. "Scooters, Scooterists and Scooter Culture" is a mock doc of Mod and scooter culture in the Seattle area and anybody into subtle comedy or scooters will have no problem in picking up on this one. "Counter Dub" was real good when it started then got great in the end when images of a depression style electric chair and Seattle's favorite son Ted Bundy concluded. There are three other shorts in this package: an art piece, a nuclear holocaust short and a parody on Madonna. I didn't really care for these, but bet somebody else will, If you're an alternative access programmer, you should have no problem editing a nice half-hour show from the material provided here. Running time is about 45 minutes. (BS)

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★★★★★

THE WALLMEN, "(Uncle George) A Rock & Roll Story" ($1 "or trade for original homemade rock or art or porno video *only*" from 7711 Lisa Ln., N. Syracuse, NY 13212): The band admits that this is "something only a real fan could watch", and they're right — the budget seems to have extended to videotape and a camera and not much more. This is a mix of live concert footage (the best part) and home-made (that is, made in somebody's home) rock videos with such exciting effects as battling dolls and jerky film where the recorder was started up again. Some of the band's sense of humor and zaniness comes through, but overall, this is more documentation than entertainment. (MG)

VIDEO NOTES

- **Creatures at Large** (PO Box 687, 1082 Grand Teton Dr., Pacifica, CA 94044) are the publishers of various books relating to genre movies. Their latest is THEM ORNERY MITCHUM BOYS, John Mitchum's account of the careers of himself and his brother.
- **David Hynds** (5639 Worth St., Dallas, TX 75214) is helping research a book that is "a film/videography of avant garde/underground on or about the subject of Nuclear anything."
- **Mondo Video** (154 Big Spring Cir., Cookeville, TN 38501) sells obscure videos, mostly in the horror and splatter genres, for $21.95 each, postpaid. Send an SASE for their latest catalog.
- **SafeGirl Productions** (PO Box 107, Hilltown, PA 18927) is looking for new and alternative VHS footage for a nonprofit video to be distributed as widely as possible.
- **UFOLOGY: AT THE TURNING POINT** ($39.95 from RAD Productions Ltd., 8306 Wilshire Blvd. #972, Beverly Hills, CA 90211) is a collection of lectures from February 1989, featuring Bill Moore, Budd Hopkins and Stanton Friedman. A 2 hour tape, specify VHS or Beta.
- **University Film & Video** (1313 Fifth St. SE #108, Minneapolis, MN 55414) is out with a catalog of a couple hundred videotapes and films on "Women's Issues", from squatting birth to "The Masculine Mystique". They rent these out at prices from about $12 to $30. Try a buck to see what's up.

★★★★★

NTSC CYBERBEAT

by Belka Stamas

There's a passage in the HEART OF DARKNESS where Marlow, the narrator, is on deck of the river steamer on the last leg of his trip up the Congo in his quest to find Kurtz. Marlow describes the thickening of the forest; trees that stretch so high and dense that sunlight can't penetrate the river, even at noon, and how he feels insignificant when standing under the eyes of God. I too felt this way when I began looking for outlets for my video.

I don't mean to sensationalize the process of getting an independent film or video shown stateside to any significant audience, but the situation is grim for both greenhorn and crack shot. In theory, PBS is supposed to provide outlets for American Independents; in practice, Britain's Channel 4 is the clearing house for innovative American work, work acclaimed world wide and shown extensively except here in the States. TV GUIDE, the CBS Morning News and the NEW YORK TIMES are just a few of the major media sources that have been bashing PBS in the last few years because of an overwhelming increase in "safe" programming and the overt strong-arm tactics the Corporation for Public Broadcasting uses when allocating money and airtime to media mugwumps.

In its conception, PBS was another utopian ideal introduced by The Great Society and the trickle down economics that have tainted other Johnson administration programs are not foreign to the arts community. For example, the Public Telecommunications Financing Act of 1978 was supposed to provide 50% of its resources for independent production, but eleven years later we find only 10% going to those outside the PBS network. So instead of state-of-the-art programming, we get art of the state with cash allocations in the form of block grants going to group stations that feed not only the in-house PBS producers, but the middle management medium mandarins as well.

Recently, some significant strides have been taken to increase the grubstakes and grouch bags of public television's loose cannons in the form of the Independent Production Service. The IPS will allocate six million dollars a year for the next three years for TV with a twist, but there's still the problem of how to distribute the money and after this is solved there's still no guarantee that the shows will be screened. The upheaval about reruns of "Lassie" and "Leave it to Beaver" being shown on PBS is not because the series are necessarily bad, but because they're taking the place of new work which should rightfully be there, much like the oldies stations that dictate the audio airwaves when plenty of great bands need to be heard by the general public instead of being axed by the public generals in communications management.

I don't want to dwell on PBS. It's not a market I seek and from the type of work I do, I'm not exactly a candidate to be aired between "Nova" and "Bill Moyer's Journal". Basically, what a zine is to a slick publication, or an alternative band to an FM top-forty group, can best sum up what my video is to a network show and there are a lot of others out there just like me, but because it's so expensive to produce even a garage piece, the PBS situation is important to anyone doing visuals because they control the money and an established national distribution pattern.

Some organizations like the Klan and numerous right-wing religious groups have taken it upon themselves to form informal networks and syndicate shows through cable systems that are broadcast on Public Access channels. Although there are plenty of underground cable carnivals in almost every major city in the country, there's no cohesiveness to the mess and what I'd like to do with this column is help put some order to the confusion.

REAL GEORGE'S BACKROOM TV (PO Box 3111, Albany, NY 12203): George Screens both shorts and videos and is broadcast on individual cable shows and sub-networks in places like Chicago, Washington DC, St. Louis, southern California, the Southwest, 31 stations in the state of Washington, Lexington, and his home base of Albany, New York.

GEORGE MARANVILLE (208 Zandale Dr., Lexington, KY 40503; 606-277-5973): George is screening individual artists (Charles Pinion, Chris Cart) and syndicated programs (Backroom TV) and has shorts of his own available for other shows. He publicizes himself quite well through public service announcements on University of Kentucky radio and is basically an airwave squatter surrounded by religious programs in the bluegrass region.

NO-BUDGET PRODUCTIONS (PO Box 23145, Seattle, WA 98102-0445): Producer/Director Frank Harlan has two shows out of KTZZ Channel 22. His original program of "Bombshelter Videos" specifically screens alternative band tapes and his new show, "No-Budget Television", will feature music, performance art, shorts, experimentals and noise.Both shows are broadcast to 31 cable stations in the state of Washington with a potential audience of 900,000 weekly viewers. Frank only accepts 3/4inch tapes.

KiNeTiC ReFleX))9d (c/o Truckin' Dad Productions, 60 Avenue C, New York, NY 10009; 212-995-2713, 212-529-4960): Scott Machens and Eric Schefter are beginning a weekly half hour music video show that will be screened on Manhattan Cable Television, Air time will start in August and I'm not sure whether this will be on channel J or channel D, but either way you'll get a large audience.

MYSTERY HEARSAY (PO Box 240131, Memphis, TN 38124-0131): Mystery Hearsay is extremely involved in the audio-art cassette culture and the same hold true in videos. They currently have an access show in Memphis and are also working on a European exchange with both England and Austria. Mike Honeycutt is the contact here and you can write to him for their newsletter and information about where to send your tapes. Lots of interesting projects on the burner with this one.

FAIR VISION RATIO (c/o 911 Contemporary Arts Center, 518 Jones Building, 1331 3rd Ave., Seattle, WA 98101; 206-682-6552): This is an art house that will give screenings to independents or groups of independents, I organized a show for a group from Philly and had a fairly easy time co-ordinating the show with contact Alan Pruzan even though it was all done via the phone lines and post office. They also provide nice printed material to document the screenings and Seattle is a really big video town these days.

HOMEMOVIES (PO Bo 1740, Denver, CO 80201-1740): Nick Frazer, Bill Hammel and Peter Johnson have a seven year old program aired at 10 o'clock Saturday nights on local PBS station KBDI channel 12. This is one of the few, if not the only PBS program in the country that screens underground videos. They've got an extremely loyal audience of 10,000 and are looking for amateur works. If you get selected for screening, you can request a copy of the entire program by sending them a 1/2inch tape which will get you some of their weekly in-house comedy shorts along with commentary on your piece. Very pleasant and professional people to work with.

MOVIES WITH MITZI WALTZ is a regular column in **MAXIMUM ROCKNROLL** (PO Box 288, Berkeley, CA 94701) and Mitzi is looking for alternative films and tapes to review. Make sure you send her a copy on 1/2inch only and address the package specifically to her since she's a freelancer and uses the MRR offices as a maildrop.

TRAUMA TV (2261 Market St. #328, San Francisco, CA 94114-1693; 415-861-7226): Trauma TV is a half-hour show aired on three cable systems on the ViaCom Network in the Bay area. Air time is 4:30 Monday afternoon and Jim Lucio and Victor Arieo who produce the show also have great contacts with the university systems there and can get you screenings on closed-circuit shows at places like San Francisco State.

SUB-MISSION LIVE! (PO Box 6824, St. Paul, MN 55106-0324): An underground MTV style show featuring both music videos and live concert segments of local and national acts. Dared Hagel is the contact here.

FILM THREAT (PO Box 951, Royal Oak, MI 48068): Another zine often seen here that reviews shorts.

If programmers want to be listed, or an artist needs a tape reviewed, you can get hold of me (Belka) at 1218 S. 11th, Philadelphia, PA 19147. Please send tapes on 1/2inch VHS and letters on pulp (as opposed to disk). An SASE is required to get anything returned, so if you want your tape back be sure to include a mailer with proper postage. In addition, if any program directors have any information about problems with the FCC, host stations or cable companies, I'd love to hear about it.

Elevator Girls In Bondage

☐ **13432 Elevator Girls in Bondage** Homely transvestites, desperate prostitutes, deranged perverts and a whole variety of other bizarre characters are the leading characters of this hilarious featurette from Luther Greene. Bad acting, mis matched dialogue, cheesy music and perverse sexual activity make this film a camp classic for those who enjoy twisted humor. Adults only. Color 60 minutes

☐ **14143 Betaville-A Post Modern Nightmare** BETAVILLE is a post-modern film noir short directed by N.Y. filmmaker Alyce Wittenstein. Inspired by the film classic ALPHAVILLE. this short parodies Godard s style as well as content. In this film. detective Coman Gettme rescues "the girl" from a dreary industrial world. only to discover that his hometown has become a high fashion fairyland Color 20 minutes

☐ **14141 Culture Drop** CULTURE DROP is a relentless. provocative collection of experimental. comic and music videos. including- SEX WITH THE DEAD. ZOMBIE SQUIRT. POLYESTER REX. LAUNDRY WORKERS JIG and many more. Produced by Joe Schwind. portions of this film have received awards and raving reviews from such organizations as The Kansas Film Institute. The Museum of Temporary Art. The Couch Potatoes and The Church of the Sub-Genius. among others. Color 20 minutes

☐ **13690 Animal Protection** This compilation of live footage taken inside six animal testing facilities shows aspects of animal experiments that are often hidden from public view These scenes. some of which were filmed by experimenters themselves. show why the use of animals is being challenged by scientists. activists and legislators on both scientific and ethical grounds. Some of the experiments depicted were halted after these tapes were publicized by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals PETA). the nation s largest animal rights organization. Color 105 minutes

☐ **14150 Kirk-O-Matic** KIRK O-MATIC is a one-hour videotape combining a variety of different special effects. mixing images from a variety of sources Producer Kirk Hunter describes his creation "These videos are for background type vids... and not for constant viewing .. the visuals are from different gauges of film- Super 8. 16mm. then digitized and mixed again for more of a free for all..." Color 60 minutes

☐ **14125 Just Cows** You've read about their adventures in THE FAR SIDE. You probably sang about them as a kid with the song OLD MACDONALD HAD A FARM They're wild. they're wacky and they're available on a new ambient video tape from Video-SIG entitled JUST COWS Experience the serenity and beauty of these wonderful farm animals in the privacy of your own home. Color 17 minutes

☐ **14217 Endangered Species** This video depicts the joys. triumphs and struggles of living as an artist It features choreography & dance by Victoria Morgan. songs by Elbows Akimbo. a monologue by Philip Horvitz and a variety of interviews with such individuals as Jello Biafra. Don Novello. Michael Peppe. Elaine Wander and Mark Pauline. among others. This piece was an award winning entry in the San Francisco 1987 Film Festival. Color 26 minutes

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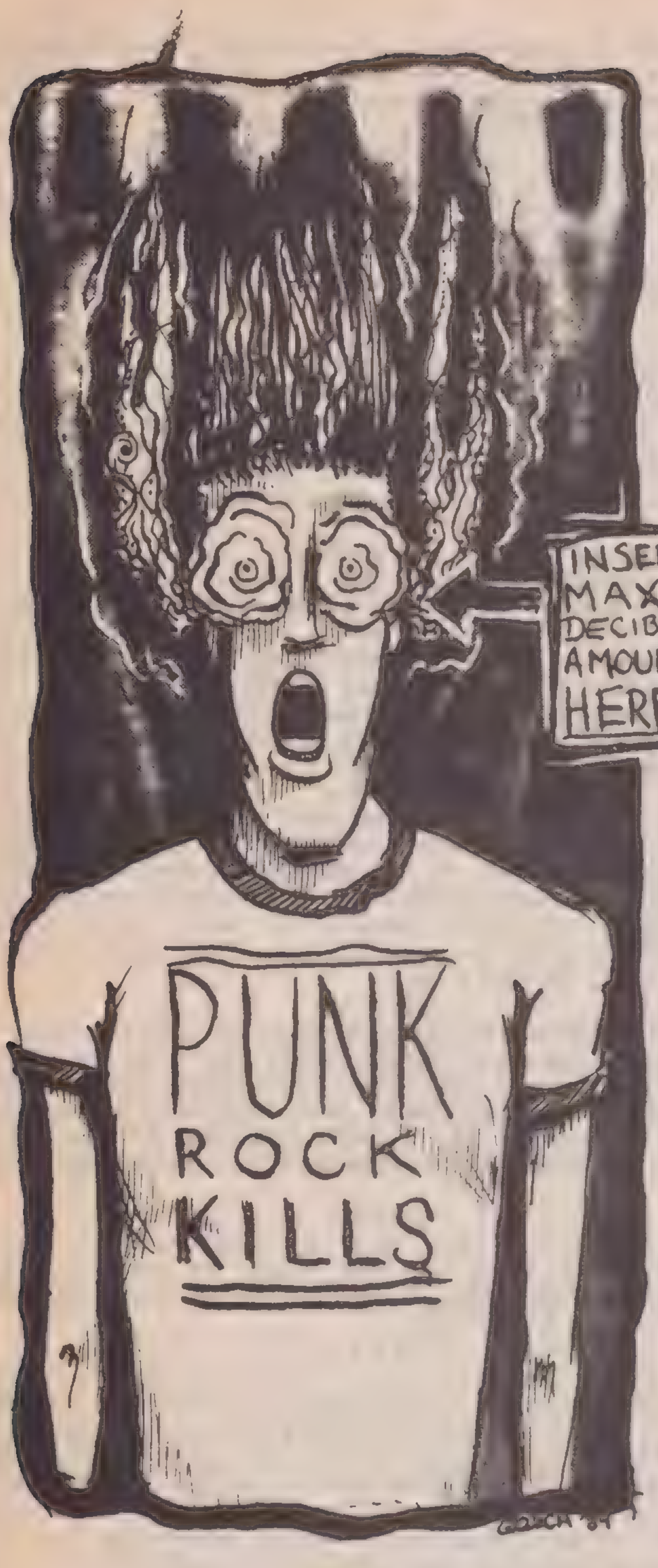
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GOSCH '89

★★★★★

Reviews this time around are by the Aeditor (MG), Carol Schutzbank (CS), Ken Johnson (KJ), PJ Bellomo (pj), Adam Gray (AG), Cris Rowles (CR), and Dina Williams (DW). As usual, the closing date for music was somewhat earlier than that for the other sections, due to the logistics involved. Just about everything that came in before July 15th is here; the rest is still with various reviewers. And remember, if you send us more than one tape or record we'll probably space them across several issues. We're proud of the fact that we review everything (with the exception of certain major-label releases) that we're sent, so if you don't see your music here within two issues of submitting it, please enquire.

★★★★★

101 CRUSTACEANS, "Songs of Resignation" (aT, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): Herky-jerky music with a wild combination of isntruments including sax and bassoon as well as more normal rock stuff. At times they sound a bit like Devo in their rhythms, but the lyrics are off in another direction entirely: "tried releasing this valve/but it's only ash/that's coming out/only ash and cinder/it ruined your dress". Not easy to listen to, in its short sharp licks, but intriguing as all hell. (T/MG)

★★★★★

24-7 SPYZ, "Harder Than You" (In-Effect, 187-07 Henderson Ave., Hollis, NY 11423): About the only thing that might be standing between this outfit and success is their eclecticism. They play a sort of funk metal, except when they're doing heavy hip-hop, pop electric rap, or other mixed black-influenced styles. There's a hard edge to their music, from the originals to the Black Uhuru cover, and an accessibility which most funk these days lacks. Enjoyable and different. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

3 MEN PISSING IN THE RAIN, self-titled ($3.50 from Claus Korn, Alte Burgstr. 1, D-8830 Treuchtlingen, WEST GERMANY): This tape starts out really poppy, all jangly guitars and light keyboards and happy singing. Gradually it gets tougher, ending in a welter of fuzzy guitar and near-scream/shouted vocals. Upbeat and infectious stuff. (T/MG)

★★★★★

40 DOG, "Yeh Right!" ($3 from Rosebud Productions, 44 North B-way #4BN, White Plains, NY 10603): Funky music from the suburbs with both rock and hip-hop influences and a great full-color cassette cover. Best bet is "Just Say No", an anti-Reaganite screed, though the beat-laden closing tune "Cover the Nut" is pretty cool too. Something very different and yet with echoes of enough familiarity to be quite enjoyable. (T/MG)

★★★★★

45 GRAVE, "Only the Good Die Young" ($6.98 from Enigma Mailorder, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Live and rambunctious gothic punk featuring a somewhat toned down Dinah Cancer on lead vocals. A fair amount of audience banter makes it on to the tape, along with heavy versions of songs like "Fucked by the Devil" and "Party Time". The lyrics would offend any member of the PMRC, but you can tell the band just doesn't take this stuff seriously, poking fun at their own purported image. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ALICE DONUT, "Bucketfulls of Sickness and Horror in an Otherwise Meaningless Life" ($7 from Alternative Tentacles, PO Box 11458, San Francisco, CA 94101): Essentially rock keyed to a fine edge of audience annoyance. The playing is sort of sloppy psychedelic, the singing is harsh, and the lyrics dissect mindless consumerism and the general blah state of the world. "Gutter-garage" rock is what their publicists are calling these grotty songs, and that's a reasonable indication of what the listener is in for. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

ALL, "Allroy's Revenge" (Cruz Records, PO Box 7756, Long beach, CA 90807): Bubblegum punk rock done to a "t" — melodic, brash, cheeky and fun fun fun. Allroy's back after his run for president, and he's bound to have his say as to what went on all that time. So listen up and enjoy. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

ALPHAVILLE, "The Breathtaking Blue" (Atlantic Records, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019): Reminiscent of many of the things that endeared me to Roxy Music but with a much bigger thrust behind the music's energy. This is a BIG sound — an arena-rock Roxy Music, if you will. It manages to be both subtle and grand, encompassing accessibly danceable and edgily dark rock elements. Very pleasurable! (T/CS)

★★★★★

ALVARO, "Mariposa" b/w "Men Don't Cry They Sing" (DM 14 from Squeaky Shoes Records, Zahringerplatz 4, 7750 Konstanz, WEST GERMANY): A very bizarre record, with a military-sounding snare drum keeping the beat, sax, penny whistle, and Alvaro, "The Chilean With the Singing Nose". Unlike just about anything but a mix of pop and Spike Jones — and oddly enough, rather enjoyable. (45/MG)

★★★★★

ANIMOSITY, "Pit Fiend" ($5.15 from Mosh Pit Records Dept. FF31, PO Box 9545, Colorado Springs, CO 80932): Loud and heavy thrash metal with nasty downer lyrics. In three songs we get one lump of misogyny (well, no worse than most C&W songs), the title cut, which carries show violence to the ultimate point, and "No Quarter (To the Death)", a despairing basis for a worldview. But the guitar playing sure does shred. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

ATOMIC BREATHING, self-titled (Post-Ambient Motion, 5402 Camden Ave., Omaha, NE 68104): Bouncy folk-pop with an engaging sound that reminds me just a bit of the soundtrack to *Brazil*. Dickson LeBron is the heart of the group, lead vocals and guitar and songwriter, and he writes these songs about simple lives that change in the heat of the moment. Very rewarding to listen to more than once. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

AXEMASTER, "Axemaster Sampler" (581 First Ave., Kent, OH 44240): A "white metal" band — that is, a heavy metal band which is rooting for good rather than evil while trying to avoid the potential preachiness of Christian metal. Thus they walk a lyrically fine line of appealing to their audience with gloomy imagery and battles but still have the good guys win in the end. Musically, they're competent but not stunning, with occasional Led Zeppelin style riffs popping up in various songs and an overall clean sound. (T/MG)

★★★★★

JOAN BAEZ, "Diamonds and Rust in the Bullring" (Gold Castle Records, 3575 Cahuenga Blvd. W., Los Angeles, CA 90068): This is a live recording of a concert Baez did in Spain — in an actual bullring as the title notes. What's really great about this is release is hearing how her voice has matured and how that maturity provides depth and brings to light new facets of her music. Songs that were enjoyable in the early years take on a whole new meaning now, enhanced by the roughened time-worn timbre of her voice. A classic release. (T/CS)

★★★★★

BRYAN BAKER, "My Prayer" ($5 from PO Box 3201, Salt Lake City, CA 84110): Mainly quiet guitar rock with a spiritual feel to it, though Bryan does do some experimenting in a few tracks. But for the most part he wanders gently through a number of songs of hope and apprehension, ending on a wistful note with "Rain, Come Down", a very nice, gentle song. (T/MG)

★★★★★

BAND OF LOATHING, demo tape (3 Appletree Ln., Walpole, MA 02081): On the good side, these guys don't waste their time playing Golden Earring covers. But that's about the only thing separating them from the crummy bands I remember from Junior High, just learning to play their instruments. Terrible recording, monotonal lyrics, sparse music — easily the worst demo I've heard in a long time. (T/MG)

★★★★★

BAND OF SUSANS, "Love Agenda" (Blast First, 262 Mott St. #324, New York, NY 10012): More guitars than Susans, actually. These rockers take a simple riff or feeling and worry at it like a dog with an old shoe, building wave upon wave of music until the listener is near unto drowning. This is music to be enveloped by, with lyrics that run down the "real" world in favor of the implied reality of the tunes. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

BASTRO, "Shoot Me A Deer" b/w "Goiter Blazes" (Homestead, PO Box 800, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0800): It's a tightwire of tension comprised of humming, buzzing guitars, power chords and throbbing rhythms. It's noisy, driving, hard, crunchy and satisfyingly thick. (45/CS)

★★★★★

JERRY BENZ, "House Plant Buffet" b/w "Dishland" (Native Parade Productions, 783 Woodland Ave., Plainfield, NJ 07062): Light-hearted rock. The A side is a bizarre little tale about getting off at the end of a hard day and sitting down to a nice meal of houseplants. The B side is more inscrutable, with a refrain of "Stuck in dishland". Bouncy and cheerful. (45/MG)

★★★★★

BIG JOEY, "Metalhead" ($6 from Jeff Jerman, Big Body Parts, 3031 E. Platte #2, Colorado Springs, CO 80909): Improvisational rock that edges over into light industrial at times. There are some bits that sound like actual songs, but between the feedback and percussion things do tend to degenerate into cacophony quite frequently. Live performances add some extra energy to the record. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

BLACK CAB-AGE, "Afternoon Rain Without Police!" (DU, 7647 S. Pierce Way, Littleton, CO 80123): This record starts out with an extended and painful burst of feedback, which rather sets the mood for the rest of it. Clashing noises, tape loops, vocals consisting in part of taped prank phone calls, and a general disregard for musical conventions animate this work. By the end of side 2 they're close to straight improvisational rock, but only the hardy listener will make it that far. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

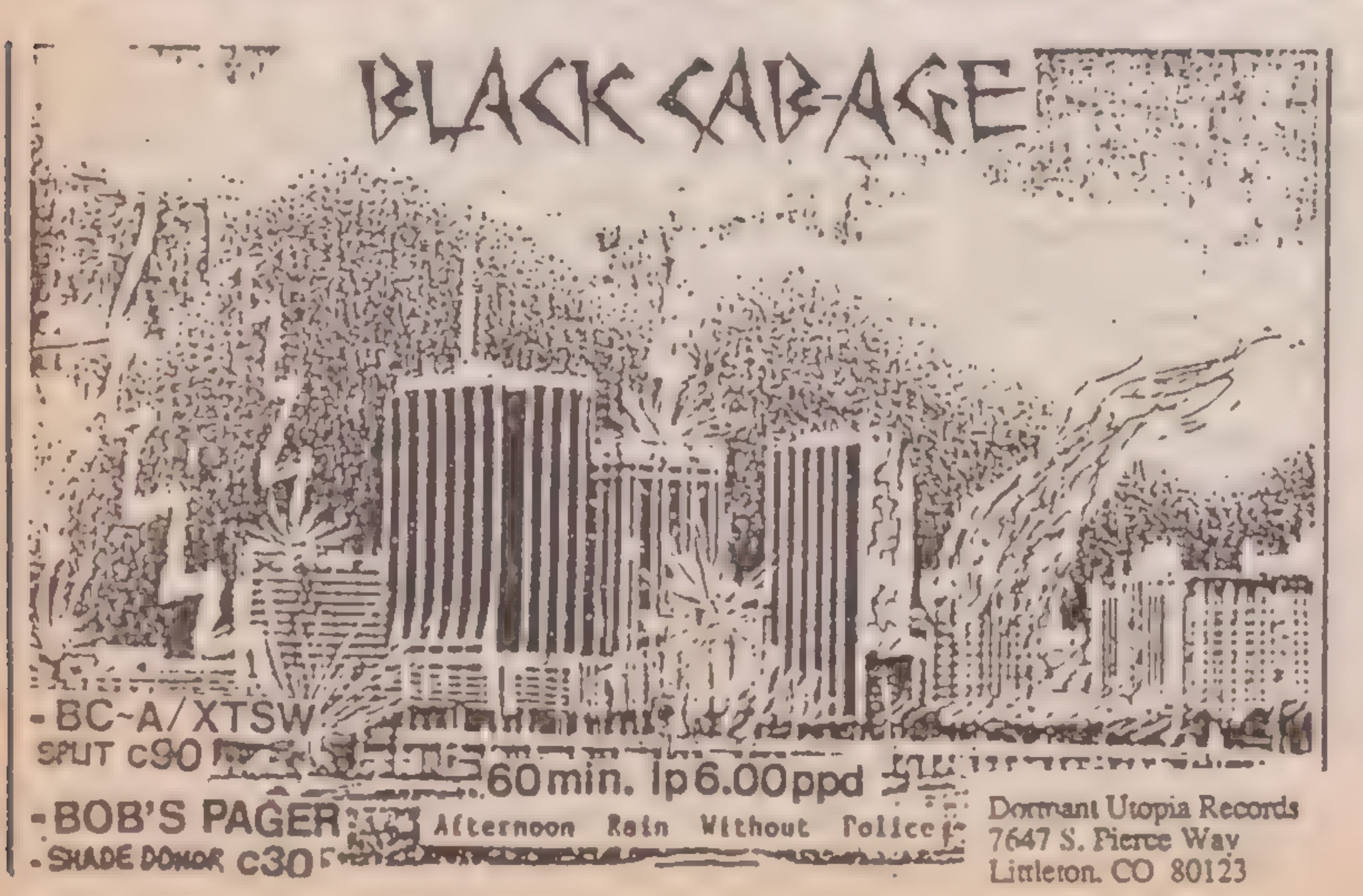
BLACK RITUAL "Encroached Upon" ($5 from Joe Mellon, 428 Eden Park Blvd., McKeesport, PA 15132): Raw and primal "power thrash" from Pittsburgh. These guys reduce the music to its essential, heavy chords and vocals that devolve into screams and grunts at times. Music to make your hair stand on end and your fillings vibrate out of your mouth. (T/MG)

★★★★★

BL'AST, "Take the Manic Ride" (SST, PO Box 1, Lawndale, CA 90260): It's too bad the term "wall of sound" has already been appropriated in rock criticism; it would be perfect for these guys. I guess something like "power thrash" will have to do instead. Very very thick and dense music, that sounds as if it comes from more than the traditional 4-piece producing it. There are occasional faint tinges of metal, but this is mainly in the punk tradition, and there it remains. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

BLUR (£2.50 in Sterling only from Tabloid, c/o Shaun Robert, 16 Climsland Road, Paignton, Torbay, Devon, TQ4 5LX, ANGLAND): A poetry project featuring both written and spokenworks from a number of people, as well as visual art and musical snippets. Unfortunately only a few readings added anything to the written poems, notably an untitled piece by Roger Crompton on post-nuclear gossip and Rupert Loydell's poem about the importance of TV. Otherwise poor recording or deliberate distortion effects make much of the tape a chore to get through. Experimental but really too unfocused to get much out of. (T & A5-50r/MG)



★★★★★

BRAINAMPUTATED, "...but good!" (10DM from Gabi Kraus & Michael Bernauer, Schlosserstrasse 35, 7830 Emmendingen, WEST GERMANY): I've seldom heard a demo tape that sounded this good. Brainamputated play fast metal music, heavy on the guitars and with English lyrics. The lyrics are pretty downbeat, especially "Doomsday" with its message of a world turned to crap. (T/MG)

★★★★★

BRAINDROPS, "Adrenalin Mother" (Vital Music, 263 E. 10th St., New York, NY 10009): Antsy, witty, biting, attention-grabbing. New wave in its ability to tackle anything that comes its way, punk in its no-holds barred attitude towards material choice and presentation, and art-affected in its vocals and delivery. Feminist music that comes nowhere close to the preconceived notions of what feminist music is, breaking new boundaries as to what it can be. (EP/CS)

★★★★★

GLENN BRANCA, "Symphony No. 6 (Devil Choirs at the Gates of Heaven)" (Blast First, 262 Mott St. #324, New York, NY 10012): Branca is one of only a handful of composers writing serious works for orchestras — or, more precisely, armies — of electric guitars. This piece, especially the last three movements, is perhaps less accessible than previous works, drifting further from rock guitar and closer to pure noise blasts and ethereal wails. I still enjoy it; there's nothing to equal the sonic impact of ten guitars at once for sheer visceral energy. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

MAE BRUSSELL, "World Watchers #862" ($3 from Tim Cridland, PO Box 85874, Seattle, WA 98145): This is notable mainly for being her final tape before her death. Otherwise it's the same old mishmash of conspiracy theories, ranging from the Kennedy assassination to child molestation to the Secret Team to the NSC to the Temple of Set. Simple test to tell if she's right about all this: would the secret dictators of the country have let her live for 862 shows if she was? (T/MG)

★★★★★

STEPHEN BUCHANAN, "Improvisations for Classical Guitar" (Al Margolis, Sound of Pig Music, PO Box 150022, Van Brunt Stn., Brooklyn, NY 11215-0001): A variety of guitar tracks, some straight, some electronically altered, that range from accessible to noise experiments approaching the Branca end of the universe. This is mainly pleasurable instrumentals, with plenty of vigor and some neat new ideas about how music ought to sound. (T/MG)

★★★★★

BUCKLE MUTANTS, "Time Walk" ($2 from Ducktooth Tapes, c/o Chris Boughter, 1801 Burns St., New Castle, PA 16101): An intense combination of punk noise grunge industrial metal rock that's unrelenting in its grip. Heavy. Duty. Really. (T/CS)

★★★★★

PETER BURNS, "The Grinning Idiot" ($9 from PO Box 373, Burlington, VT 05402): Burns is a rather curious person. At the start of this spoken-word tape, you get the impression that he's a stand-up comedian, with the stories of goddess Pam Henderson and the Grinning Idiot track, where he gets the whole audience rocking and chanting. But there are also curiously surreal bits like "The Moving Black Dot" or the description of some of the esoteric dreams of deranged children. Definitely entertaining, but hard to grok. A wonderful deadpan delivery adds to the fun. (T/MG)

★★★★★

CANCEROUS GROWTH, "Smokosphere" (Xkurzhen Sound, c/o Michael Jackson, State House PO Box 207, Boston, MA 02133): Michael Jackson and Chris Phinney (and friends) are at it again. As you may have guessed from the title, the musical texture is somewhat murky. The title piece gets mired in "noise for noise's sake" and never really focuses on a particular theme. Side A is really intriguing at times with the synthesizer textures of "Love Found" and the guitar/bass combination building to a climax on "Whiskey Days". Overall, it's worth sifting through this for the worthwhile cuts. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

CAMERA OBSCURA #19 ($3 from Lone Wolf, 1508 Faymont, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266): A "Cassette Radio Fanzine", in which the Marc plays music and comments on it. It's not all stuff he likes; some groups, like All, get played only to slam their PR hype and general ability, But there is plenty of good stuff here too, including cuts from Spot, Bob Zander, Bamff, and David E. Williams. Sensible commentary and a liner card that includes contact addresses for everyone mentioned. (T/MG)

★★★★★

CARRION DOG, demo tape (8912 Dogue Dr., Alexandria, VA 22309): The sort of metal-laced rock that sets Tipper Gore's teeth on edge with its lyrics. These boys have a lot of fun, from their lead song "Artfag" through the disgusto "Thrash" ("Licking drip sores ancient nuns/bile and semen drip from guns...") to the Oedipal "Mama" (sort of metal C&W) to the final explicit paean "Ted Bundy". Hard to justify as socially redeeming, and a bit lacking in the recording quality department, but well-done nonetheless. (T/MG)

★★★★★
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CEPHALIC INDEX and **NOMUZIK** "This Is Daddy Shaving" (Mike Jackson—X-Kurzhen, PO Box 207, State House, Boston, MA 02134): Spacey electronic ambient sounds, nothing to dance to, but exellent for relaxing and spacing out to. Fun stuff to dream over. (T/CR)

★★★★★

THE CHANNEL MASTERS, "Wide Socks" (Whitewall Tapes, PO Box 7606, Akron, OH 44306): The two sides are from sessions 11 months apart, so you can hear the band's improvement. I must admit that Karen Wardrop's voice still gets to me like fingernails on a chalkboard, but otherwise this guitar-heavy music is pretty cool in a sloppy way. No prizes for overproduction, but screwy lyrics and the obvious fun they're having make up for that. (T/MG)

★★★★★

CHAOTIKA 3 ($2 & 2 Stamps from Cowan Network, PO Box 15, Altadena, CA 91003): The premise behind this tape is simple: take a batch of people out into the desert, let the sun start setting, and record them banging away at various loud percussion instruments. Voice and woodwinds get into the act too, but this is mainly 90 minutes of neo-tribal rhythms. It drags a bit at times, but mostly there's an energetic, exultant, hypnotic quality to the experience, which makes it possible to nearly lose one's ego while listening. (T/MG)

★★★★★

CHEMICAL PEOPLE, "Ten-Fold Hate" (Cruz Records, PO Box 7756, Long Beach, CA 90807): Steer away from this one if you can't tolerate sexism; these buys aren't just playing at being porno-loving tail-chaising pigs, as their lyrics and photo choices demonstrate. On the other hand, if you don't mind that, they play a good fuzzy poppish hardcore sound (albeit with strainign vocals) that suits their brand of lyrical mayhem just fine. Plenty of energy, but no social consciousness. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

CHURCH OF THE SUBGENIUS, "Hour of Slack #182" ($8.50 from PO Box 140306, Dallas, TX 75214): A recording of the radio show done by Ivan Stang, head poobah of the wacky Church of the SubGenius. This one opens with news bulletins from the attempted SubGenius revolution and the ensuing martial law. Later on there's some fallout from the anti-SubG campaign being waged by Bob Black & his cronies. In between you get music from Jimi Hendrix to obscure preachers. (T/MG)

★★★★★

CIRCUS OF POWER, "Still Alive" (Metal Blade Records, 11264 Playa Ct., Culver City, CA 90231-3628): A live performance from Detroit with a lot of energy behind it, especially in the closing "Turn Up the Jams" (shades of MC5). Most of this is a bit lighter than the archetypical heavy metal, though still focused on loudness, fast women, drinking and party time topics. I enjoyed it. (EP/MG)

"Crazy" - Thurston Moore

"It conjures up visions" - Brian Aldiss

"When the last song was finished, all the birds fell dead from the sky." - Richard Schindler

"A Salvador Dali of music" - GYPSY

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★★★★★

CLAERIC RED F, "Nobody to Blame But Themselves" (Collision Cassettes, 811 W. 8th St., Wilmington, DE 19801): Boy, won't this tape just drive yer dog up the damn wallpaper...lots of knocking, ringing, thumping, pounding, warbling, whistling, scraping and shouting. It's in the "Music for Films" (Eno) vein. The creators seem hellbent on creating solid visuals with sound, and it works. Mind you, these people are no Einsturzende Neubaten or anything, It may just inspire a tension headache rather than revelation. Got unwanted guests? Here's plan A... (T/AG)

★★★★★

CLASSIC RUINS, "Ruins Cafe" (Presto! Records, PO Box 1081, Lowell, MA 01853): Rockabilly-styled fun music anchored by guitarist Frank Rowe, who's also worked with Baby's Arm and the Lyres. Their songs are upbeat and danceable, ranging from "I'm a Wimp" to more mainstream numbers like the title cut. Check out "Hedda Humma", which not-very-subtly pokes fun at the stereotypical male chauvinist.. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE CLEAN, "Compilation" (Homestead Records, PO Box 800, Rockville Centre, NY 115771-0800): This is a compilation of material from a New Zealand band that was originally released in the early 1980's. Oddly enough, this is the first full length LP from this band and the first material released domestically. The Clean create an ebullient brand of guitar rock that reminds me of a cross between early Split Enz and Expando Brain. Both "Billy Two" and "Tally Ho!" combine infectious rhythms with an urgent drumbeat. "What Ever I Do" adds synthesizers for a similar effect. Good clean fun. (LP/KJ)

★★★★★

CLOCKS, "Post Industrial Folk" (Orphanage, 1702 W. Camelback #315, Phoenix, AZ 85015): I consider industrial music a type of folk music. It is most often self-produced, direct and emotional, albeit with a quite different sound. Therefore, I was intrigued by this release. I was expecting an intelligent and interesting combination of traditional "folk" and "industrial" musics. However, the styles are kept strangely separate. Not that the "folk" cuts are of poor quality — they often showcase the talent of this lineup, but I would have liked to hear more cuts similar to "Darcy Farrow", where eerie industrial vocals are combined with subdued folk rhythms. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

CLOSE LOBSTERS, "Headache Rhetoric" (Enigma Records, 11264 Playa Ct., Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Jangly British Isles guitar pop is in a bull market these days, on the heels of the Smiths and various other popular names. Close Lobsters are in this same vein, laying down a thick sound with lots of twangy notes leaping out the top, and intermingled vocals that sound not so much pretty as polished. Fun but a bit insubstantial. (T/MG)

★★★★★

CODE BLUE, "Dying World" ($2 & 2 stamps from 1903 Canadian Ct., Gaithersburg, MD 20879): Short and sweet (only two songs here), enough to encourage my opinion, but not confirm it in any one way. Garage-jam, buzz-wail guitars dark metal basement rock with crunch. They seem to have a lot to offer, but at two songs it's really hard to tell. It's be nice to hear more from this band to see what they do with their sound. (T/CS)

★★★★★

RANDALL COHEN, demo tape ($5 from 532 S. 9th St., San Jose, CA 95112): I guess the best way to describe this tape is to call it "brown noise" — unrelenting electronic mayhem, not musical so much as noisy. Sounds a bit like the sort of signal you get if you hook the house current directly into the output stage of your amplifier. While there are changes to the noise, I wouldn't go so far as to call them tunes or anything. Ear-battering. (T/MG)

★★★★★

COMMUNICATS, "The Same As Me" (DM 14 from Squeaky Shoes Records, Zahringerplatz 4, 7750 Konstanz, WEST GERMANY): English dance-band music with a really big, almost big band, sound to it — lots of horns, a bouncy fast pace, and a nice strong bass line. The lyrics are basically fluff, both on the title tune and on the flip "Did It Before", but that doesn't make a lot of difference when the whole purpose is to get your feet moving, which is does well. (45/MG)

★★★★★

CONCEPT, "From Home to Space and Beyond" ($7 from 4322 Cleroux Blvd., Chomedey, Laval, Que., H7T 2E3, CANADA): Impressive progressive rock from the group that includes Peter Riden, publisher of **THE AFFILIATE**. There are echoes of some classic 70s groups here; a bit like Boston, but with harder overtones and a more majestic feel. The songs are of dreams and hope. (T/MG)

★★★★★

CON DEMEK, "Disgorging Elements" (135 2nd St., Troy, NY 12180): Atmospheric but not in the usual manner that one considers atmospheric to be. Soundtrack oriented in an eerie way. The use of sounds and pieces of music makes for a substantial yet misty appeal with a slight tinge of urban paranoia creeping around the edges. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

CON DEMEK, "Dogmama" (RRRecords, 151 Paige St., Lowell, MA 01852): Atmospherically constricting music built up from tape loops, eerie vocals, industrial percussion, and downbeat guitars. They take a little riff or a bit of found sound and gradually add to it, driving into your reptilian hindbrain like a tasty beetle. A bit scary, a bit abrasive, all original. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE CONNELLS, "Fun & Games" (TVT Records, 59 W. 19th St., New York, NY 10011): Sort of college pop, but with a depth of both music and lyrics seldom found in pop music. The best comparison is probably someone like the Pixies, who also expand the bounds of the genre, though the sound isn't really the same. This is very mellow and layered music with oblique thoughts sprinkled in to hypnotize the listener. Rather nice. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

CONTRAGATE Vol. 7 ($2 from Chris Caggiano, 1737 Grove St., Ridgewood, NY 11385): Leftist political commentary recorded (sometimes rather poorly) from radio broadcasts (and no doubt without procuring the rights). Topics include tired old CFR/Trilateral conspiracy theories, Moslem fundamentalism in North Africa, and the fascist links of George Bush's election campaign. (T/MG)

★★★★★

COWTOWN, "Zontar the Thing From Venus" (PO Box 9485, Denver, CO 80209): A tape composed of very bizarre cover tunes interspersed with dialogue from the movie of the same name. Cowtown plays a sort of funky experimental rock, butchering such familiar tunes as "96 Tears", "Wild Thing" and "Ballad of the Green Berets", the last with subtly altered lyrics as well. There's also some originals here. (T/MG)

★★★★★

CRANIAL PRESSURE, "Nair In Your Skull" ($4 from Jason Bauman, Route 1 Hwy 23, Mineral Point, WI 53565): This one is billed as industrial, though considering the sparseness of their sound and the audibility of the vocals I'd call it experimental myself. Lots of clanking and pounding, a few clever or funny lines, but ultimately this is music without musicianship. (T/MG)

★★★★★

CRAWLING WITH TARTS, "Candy Tooth Ceylon" ($5 from 1803 Mission #316, Santa Cruz, CA 95060): This is both more eclectic and more accessible than most of their previous releases (neat trick, that). It has everything from simple piano studies to straight rock and roll to industrial to their more usual experimentation with the limits of music and scattered cultural experiments. If only supermarkets would play this instead of muzak the world would be a much more interesting place. Very polished and worth a listen. (T/MG)

★★★★★

CRIMPSHINE, "Quit Talkin' Claude" (Lookout Records, PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): Remember the old days of Anti-Nowhere League and bands of that ilk? While some of them continue to hold on even as they begin to age and their sound dims with time, newer younger bands spring forward to remind them of what used to be. Crimpshine harks back to a sound of six or seven years ago, but does it in a manner all their own, without inviting comparisons. (45/CS)

★★★★★

IVOR CUTLER, "Radio Sessions 88/89" (Dave Haden, 22 Evesham Rd., Stratford, CV39 9AA, ENGLAND): Mad Scots poetry from, reasonably enough, a mad Scotsman. Cutler starts his second offering off with "You pick your nose prenatally..." telling the tale of the nose fairy who comes to you in your mother's womb, and it only gets weirder after that. For the most part these poems would be out of place in any respectable journal, but they definitely have a spot in the underground. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DANNY, "Classical Emphasis for Hurricane of Love" (Leela Rasa Services, PO Box 1191, Stowe, VT 05672): Another tape put together from other people's music in small snippets, an audio collage of sorts. This one reaches back into traditional classical music and forward into the 60s and beyond for its message of limitless love. I find the jittery style sometimes hard to deal with, like flipping the radio around the stations too quickly, but it does act to paint a picture of lots of people groping for one answer. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DARK ANGEL, "Leave Scars" ($12.98 from IRD Mail Order [certified check or MO only], 187-07 Henderson Ave., Hollis, NY 11423): Fast and powerful metal that pulls no punches. These guys deliver a battering-ram sound and apocalyptic lyrics, with guitar solos to curl your toes. Listening to this stuff is something like having the inside of your skull reamed out by a red-hot dental drill, but it's quite enjoyable once you get used to it. Two sides of this thrash and grunge is more than enough to leave me breathless. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

DAS FREIE ORCHESTER, "Wolfmusik" (Carl Howard, audiofile Tapes, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): Improvisations in a variety of genres, from hymns to jazz to rock to industrial. The music bounces, no matter what the referent, and a variety of German and English texts and lyrics are laid over the top. Ranges from abrasive to accessible, with the closing "Crimson Kong" being the most easily enjoyable track, fast-paced instrumental rock. (T/MG)

★★★★★

BETSY DAVIDSON, "Lying Beside Me" b/w "One More Lie..." (Ebb-Tide Records, PO Box 2544, Baton Rouge, LA 70821): Pretty normal sounding country, just a bit flat, and with the usual love and cheating lyrics. The whole is dressed up with the usual semiliterate Ebb-Tide PR: "She's a 'professional' and needed little or no production/voice/arranging work-(what-so-ever)." is a typical line from the presskit, which makes it tough to take the music seriously. (45/MG)

★★★★★

DEAD SILENCE, "For Your Ego's Sake" ($2.75 from Hippycore, PO Box 195, Mesa, AZ 85211): Hardcore in two ways: musically and in its stance in favor of animal rights. Songs here deal with animal testing, vivisection, and starvation, among other depressing topics. Energy packed music that tries to get people thinking and may well succeed. Comes with a 28-page booklet of background material. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

DEAF LIONS/PBK "Shamanistic" (PBK, 115 W. 33rd St., San Bernardino, CA 92405): PBK reminds me a lot of F/i, but they display much more depth and creativity to their compositions akin to Psychic TV. Here, they team up with an outfit called Deaf Lions on side A to produce a cut with pagan overtones, while on side B they produce a more straightforward, rhythmic and industrial piece. Few bands display such compositional diversity. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

DEATHRANCH, "Onanathra" ($5 from Skidloy, 1473 Redwood Dr., Santa Cruz, CA 95060): Definitely not easy listening. This is feedback squeals, minor key wails, wailing mystic vocals, and eerie noises, rolled into songs that will tense your chest muscles and send your internal organs into shock. A release to twist the body into knots, never mind its paranoia-producing effect on your head. Best listened to very late at night. (T/MG)

★★★★★

JON DIAZ & DOUGLAS BALDWIN, "I Shall From Now On Do the Things I'm Not Supposed to Do" ($6.50 from Douglas Baldwin, 35 Caldwell St., Huntington Station, NY 11746): Two electric guitars working together to produce some jazz/rock noise fusion stuff. This is a collection of eerie instrumentals, some relatively close to the familiar noises of rock, others far out into uncharted territory. A bit minimal to demand attention but promising nonetheless. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DIRECT CURRENT, demo tape (Elation Records, 322 Berkshire Ln., Stockton, CA 95207): This is just two guys — Dennis Soares and Chris Rosten — though with the aid of synthesizers they create a full and lush sound on tape. The A side, "Nympho-Maniac", is pretty straightforward danceable pop. The B side, "Cauz You're Made That Way", is much mellower, with a dose of horns mixed in. This is a cassette single, but they're planning a CD in the near future. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DISCO ASSASSINS, "Boring, My Ass!" ($4 from Dumb Artists Collective, 172 Chestnut St. #209, Springfield, MA 01103): The A side is somewhat aimless musical noodling, ambient improvisational synthesizer and vocal and whatnot stuff — doesn't stand out as much better or worse than a lot of such attempts. The B side, though, lives up to its title: simply a recording, for 45 minutes, of unaccompanied voice counting from 1 to 987. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DISCO TEX & HIS SEX-O-LETTES, "Get Dancin'" ($8 from ROIR, 611 Broadway #411, New York, NY 10012): An reissue of an incredibly tacky disco classic, so bad it'll probably develop a cult following, just like B-grade movies do. Plenty of bombast, affected vocals, big band backup instrumentation, and one of the hokiest fake-live crowd cheers tracks I've ever heard make this a fitting parodic remembrance of the genre. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DOCTOR BOMBAY, "Car Crash Rage" (Apex Recording Service, 611 Cedar Ave., Collingswood, NJ 08108): This band's first LP ends with a scream/shriek, which seems only appropriate, as the whole thing is boiling over with hard-to-suppress emotion; a record that won't fit on one slab of vinyl. Swampy atmosphere pop/rock that stops short of gloom, this one delivers a rich sound that will set your heart palpitating and your mind wondering at the same time. Emotional energy backed up by lots of guitar work. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

DR. DETROIT, "Top Secret" (Mr. Big Productions, 256 Mountain View Rd., Somers, CT 06071): Plastic party music. Indeed, this tape is more of an advertisement for this one-man show than anything else — he'll come to your party with synths and sequencers and a mike and do his own arrangements of classic rock hits. Selections include "I Heard It Through The Grapevine", "My Girl" and "Get Ready", but I don't like them as much as the originals. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE DREAM SYNDICATE, "Live At Raji's" ($6.98 from Enigma Mailorder, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Dream Syndicate is one of those bands whose studio recordings, no matter how good, fall short of the live experience. What's here that is missing there is the sense of what great showmen they are, how well they play the crowd. Their rootish rock goes from peak to peak, with slow quiet passages between, and the audience was hooked for every minute. So, for that matter, was I. Brilliant. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DR. LIMBO & HIS FABULOUS OFF-WHITES, "Honey Wah Wah" (Dirty Little Nipper Records, 340-253 College St., Toronto, ONT, M5T 1R5, CANADA): Jump on up and get ready to jive. A smoking mix of danceable swing blues rock with a definite buzz of adrenalin running through it. (45/CS)

★★★★★

EDWARD EIGERMAN, "C-30" ($4 from 518 Second St., Brooklyn, NY 11215): A tape, written & directed by Edward and made with the help of a batch of friends, of "radio comedy". There are three pieces here. The first, "Star Thingy", is a Star Trek parody, with some good jokes. "House of Incredibly Bad Evil" takes all the horror stereotypes too far, while the short "Dorp Blipman Goes to See His Advisor" is probably the best of the lot. Not pro quality, but amusing nonetheless. (T/MG)

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THE ELECTRIC LOVE MUFFIN, "Rassafranna" (Restless Records, 11264 Playa Ct., Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Sort of rollicking psychedelia from this Philly band that refuses to be tied down to a single sub-genre of the vast sprawling funhouse that is rock. They move from R&B through soul right on up to modern noise, having a good time on the way. Lots of swirling guitars and intermingled vocals make this a highly layered listening experience which stands up to repeated spins. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

ELECTRIC PEACE, "Road to Peace" (Barred Records, 2153 1/2 N. Highland Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90068): Well, I may be ignorant, but I don't know who the heck these guys are or why I should care. The press release says this stuff hung around in the Enigma vaults for 4 years before being pryed loose. With its quota of bloated hard rock opuses (opusi?) and self-indulgent noodling around, I don't know why anyone cared enough to take it out. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE E PLURIBUS UNUM BAND, "Live to be Dumb" ($2 from PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): The tape cover is nice, with psychedelic art and edgy, jittery lettering. Unfortunately the music inside did not impress me. This four-piece has a real hollow sound, a combination of poor recording and apparent lack of interest in what they're doing. They just sort of wander through, banging on the drums or blurting out a few chords, and there's no energy behind the project. (T/MG)

★★★★★

EPSTEIN BROS., "I Wanna Kill the Owner of this Bar!" ($5 from Bill Weita, PO Box 257, Kent, OH 44240): More from one of the most prolific garage bands in the country. This one has a very operatic feel to it, an ambitious acid-rock overlay with plenty of layers to it. Final cut is called "Drummer goes out of control while the rest of the band is swept along by the unbelievable momentum", and that pretty much sums it up. (T/MG)

★★★★★

EUCLID'S BAKERY, self-titled (66 Foster, New Haven, CT 06511): The pace is tight, the guitarwork is good, the music is rock with a little bit of new wave and country-inspired drive to it. Not bad at all — what I'd consider to be a hard-working opening band readying its chops for the move onwards. (45/CS)

★★★★★

EVERLASTING HAPPY LIFE, self-titled (The Happiest Place on Earth, 4391 Sunset Blvd. #235, Los Angeles, CA 90029): This is happiness? Ambiently industrial machine rock music with a weighty edge to it — dense and meaty in sound. Not what one usually associates with the word "happy" — unless one is, perhaps, a welder from hell. Still, everything is relative... (T/CS)

★★★★★

EVERY DEAD NEW GHOST, self-titled (Carl Howard, aT, 209-25 18th Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): Sort of reminds me of Joy Division but with a much rougher edge that doesn't make me want to, well, hang myself from a tree at 23. Well recorded with a bit of energy. I especially enjoyed "Killing Time". From the sounds of this tape, this band has material out on vinyl that might be worth looking to. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

THE EX, "Aural Guerrilla" (Homestead Records, PO Box 570, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0570): More pounding poppy-punk from the Dutch band with an overtly political stance — indeed, the beautiful large posters, on subjects from Clause 28 to the commercialization of Che, that come with the album are one of its best features. The lyrics are hardhitting as well, and the music is sort of a primitive sludge of noise, fast but not overwhelming, that makes room for alternatives in life. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

EXILES, "Kalimba Mania" (Esfoma Recordings, PO Box 4692, St. Louis, MO 63108): If you don't like kalimbas, you won't like this cassette. Many different kinds of kalimbas are played on this tape and are occasionally helped out by a keyboard instrument. While I do like the sound of kalimbas, I was disappointed in their treatment in the compositions. I would have enjoyed hearing a piece or two that explored the softer, quieter aspects of kalimba playing to break up the monotony of the manic playing. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

EXOTERACY, demo tape ($3 from Roger Zundell, 10446 Petit St., Granada Hills, CA 91344): One of the cleanest and tightest demo tapes I've heard in a long time. Exoteracy are somewhere in the hardcore to metallic axis, pumping out a lot of noise and urgent vocals with some rapid-fire guitar licks. Songs are mostly of opposition, whether to packaged religion or being pushed around by the government. Promising stuff. (T/MG)

★★★★★

EXPATRIATE, "No Sleep Til Chugwater" ($3.40 from Mosh Pit Records Dept. FF31, PO Box 9545, Colorado Springs, CO 80932): Grungy fuzzy thrash metal with a sense of humor. They rag on other music ("Megadeth Sells but Who Cares?"), love ("Sometimes Love is Fucking Stupid") and the

SDI ("Pie in the Sky"), along with a few other things. The snappy B side ends with some screwy instrumental work. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

EXUMA, "Rude Boy" ($8 from ROIR, 611 Broadway #411, New York, NY 10012): Not traditional reggae in the forms we've cone to expect — this is purer, harder, unpredictable and incorrigible. Exuma embraces a breezy island approach, a feisty Caribbean spirit, infectious rootsy-rhythms and a cynical bad-assed "cool-dude" attitude. The material is upbeat and lively but dangerous: beware the angles and sharp edges and charged currents that are hidden beneath the smile and the swing. (T/CS)

★★★★★

THE FIENDZ, "Havin Fun" (Black Pumpkin Records, 158 Stewart Terr, Totowa, NJ 07512): Garage rock with a surf music tinge to it. A couple of love songs, one socially conscious number, and a good clean sound. No major surprises here, but decent music and a cool sound. (45/MG)

★★★★★

THE FIENDZ, "Runaway With Me" (Black Pumpkin Records, 158 Stewart Terr., Totowa, NJ 07512): *Very* Ramones oriented with Elvis Costello-like vocals — makes for an interesting mix with plenty of potential. Unfortunately that potential is not explored to its fullest here; still, it's not disappointing either. (45/CS)

★★★★★

DAN FIORETTI, "Music for Mutants" (Kitti Tapes, 312 N. 3rd Ave., Highland Park, NJ 08904): Synthesizer and sampling madness. This is a sprawling piece, with some good ideas being driven into the ground and some sampled bits that didn't do much of anything for me; I thought it could use some serious editing. On the other hand the hand-colored cover lends a certain verve, and the bulk of side two is pleasant aural experimentation and rhythmic exploration. (T/MG)

★★★★★

fIREHOSE, "fROMOHIO" (SST, PO Box 1, Lawndale, CA 90260): With each release the band moves further towards defining themselves and their music. Funky punk...punky funk...with a sliding two-step shuffle towards the college alternative rock and pop audience. It twitches, it junps, it jitters it jives, but always with enough control to pull back before it loses itself over the edge. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

FIRE IN THE KITCHEN, demo tape ($3 from Bob Bannister, 230 W. 105th St., New York, NY 10025): This band's main problem is that the critics don't know what to make of them — "postpunk" sez one, "new wave" according to another. What they really are is two guitars, bass, drums, intelligent lyrics, rock roots, and strange twists like a flurry of tempo changes in one song or a suddenly dissonant bass line in another. I don't know what genre that makes them either, but I do know it makes for a cool listening experience. (T/MG)

★★★★★

FLIPPER, "Blow'n Chunks" ($8 from ROIR, 611 Broadway #411, New York, NY 10012): A classic 1983 CBGB's live performance of this San Francisco based noise/rock outfit, with original (now deceased) bassist Will Shatter on vocals. Flipper puts out a wall of gutter guitars, slow low-frequency noises that build and fall while the song structure comes in almost as an afterthought. A barbiturate-consciousness jam session. (T/MG)

★★★★★

FOIST COLLECTIVE, "Collective Foist" (287 Averill Ave., Rochester, NY 14607): For the most part this record, a collection of works from 11 artists, is the antithesis of easy listening. There are some rocking instrumentals, but there's also stuff like Matt Messinger's piercing sonic experimentation or Deco's a capella "Vocal Percussion II: Nominals". Jim Denault ends things on an eerie note, and in between your ears are alternately soothed and blasted by people working beyond the envelope that normally contains music. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

FOOLISH AMERICAN QUARTET, "Exit" b/w "Silly Dreams" ($3.50 from Bob Klomparens, PO Box 2424, Kalamazoo, MI 49001-2424): Four piece rock that sounds real polished and together without being plastic and artificial. This is not abrasive music but rather tunes to listen to, music to nod your head too, with a minimum of bombast or affectation. Elliptic lyrics point to a mood without demanding an exact thought be shared. I like this. (45/MG)

★★★★★

ANDREW FRANCK and **CHARLIE MENDOZA**, "One Breath Bardo" (Paralux Productions, 59 Franklin, New York, NY 10013): Mostly haunting ethereal music heavy on the synthesizer and sampler, though they do get around. "Ladder to Topos — How to Paint a Missing Alphabet", for example, includes a mixed-up alphabet recitation by a young girl, coming close to some experimental sound poetry. There's also a rearrangement of "A Hard Day's Night" for synths, as well as many more New Age-ish numbers. (T/MG)

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★★★★★

RICHARD FRANECKI, "Theme From a Non-Existing Film" (Carl Howard, audiofile Tapes, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): Granted that the title here is probably a sardonic comment on an overused reviewing cliche, the temptation to guess what genre of film is irresistible. I opt for a sort of detective film noir, with Clint Eastwood relentlessly pursuing some ill-defined evil person, as the suspense gradually builds. All synthetic, all with a wiry tautness to them, these tracks would set the mood for such a film nicely. (T/MG)

★★★★★

NYLE FRANK, "Who Needs More Bad Songs?" (Centipede Productions, PO Box 121832, Nashville, TN 37212): Tom Lehrer once referred to his piano as a folk instrument under the guise of an "88-string guitar"; Nyle follows in the same spirit. His tunes are amusing and thoughtful, the sort of thing both kids and adults can appreciate, like classic cartoons. Besides the title song, I especially liked "If the South had *Really* Won", "The Church is Going to the Dogs" and "The Platypus' Daughter". Recommended. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE FROGS, "It's Only Right & Natural" (Homestead Records, PO Box 570, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0570): There's some controversy over whether these guys are really outrageously gay or only exploiting the titillation factor of singing odes to other men; in any case, their lyrics have successfully offended folks on both sides of the sexual line. To my ears this pales next to the music, especially their cough-syrup overdose slurred vocals. A very minimal and grating sound adds up to a record to bother most anyone. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE FUCKEDTONES, demo tape (Douglas Konzen, 12543 Totem Lake Blvd. #111, Kirkland, WA 98034): A live recording of this bluesy rock outfit, into long jams and lots of percussion. Their music is not as much of an assault as their name, and although they don't seem to take their promo packages seriously, the music is pleasant in a late-night sort of way. (T/MG)

★★★★★

FUGAZI, self-titled ($5 from Dischord Records, 3819 Beecher St. NW, Washington, DC 20007): This is a punk sound, but a very clean, crisp, sharp-edged one. Though they can put up a real wall of noise, every note hangs gleaming in the air, daring yet another notch on the volume control. The lyrics are finely honed too, especially in the anti-sexist "Suggestion". Worth checking out even if you hate punk. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

TOM FURGAS, "Six Tunes" ($4 from 1840 Paisley Rd. #3, Youngstown, OH 44511): Half a dozen pop instrumentals, with a synthetic sound to them but rather different from most of the experimental music we recieve. Tom plays pleasant little bouncy things, changing sound-pictures with a fast beat and gentle instrumentation. It all seems to go by real quickly, and leaves a smile when it's gone. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

GAWK, "Lore of the Oxowl" (c/o Marc Sloan, PO Box 1671, New York, NY 10009): Exploratory music that pulls elements from rock, jazz, classical and even the natural world (bird songs, for instance). The result is a flowing mosaic of music, stuff that went real well on the cloudy thunderstorm afternoon when I listened to it. Bass-fueled musical experimentation. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE GEAR, "In the New Hitsville" (3119 Stolzenfeld, Warren, MI 48091): Really well done self-proiduced pop with just a touch of harder stuff lurking below the surface. Best bet on this EP is the extended "Get Twisted", a hypnotic free-association romp through a world where nothing seems to be quite right ("Abortion clinic game-show muzak/drips from secret ceiling speakers/onto wall street baby brokers/cashing in on baby futures..."). (EP/MG)

★★★★★

GEEK, "Herasure" ($4 from Lillian Daniel, 151 Thomas St. NW, Washington, DC 20001): Pretty intense dark pop-stuff held together by a bass line that just won't quit. These folks tend to write extended songs that wander from concept to concept like skipping stones: "words fit like knives in the hands of my culture i put them to my own throat just to speak and i'm at the edge of my lips..." The words tumble out past the music in a rather frightening manner. (T/MG)

★★★★★

GERRYMANDER BOB, self-titled ($4 from Blair Loughrey, c/o WCNI, Box 1333, Conn. College, New London, CT 06320): Sort of poppy music with crisp hard edges. Throwing in mandolin and violin as well as the more usual guitar and bass, and letting the drummer loosen up with some out of the ordinary percussion makes for an interesting listen that shows real promise. Best bets: "Dirty Feet" and the instrumental "Old Man Eyes" with a bit of backwoods sound. (45/MG)

★★★★★

GIBSON BROTHERS, "Dedicated Fool" (Homestead Records, PO Box 800, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0800): Rough and stubbly, scratchy screetchy fucked up honky-tonk dark gee-tarr boogie twang rock and roll music. It's raw. It's out there. It's demented in all the right ways. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

RIVKA GOLANI, "Viola Nouveau" (Centtrediscs, 20 St. Joseph St., Toronto, ONT M4Y 1J9, CANADA): It's amazing what a variety of sounds this woman can get out of a single unaccompanied string instrument. Rivka has played with symphony orchestras all over the world, and here she brings her talents with the viola to bear on five contemporary Canadian compositions. I especially enjoyed David Jaeger's "Favour", which employs electronic techniques under the control of the soloist rather than an engineer, and without losing touch with the traditional structure of the piece. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

RICHARD GOODHART, "Beginner's Mind" (3 Arden Crag Dr., Albany, NY 12203): Anyone interested in the Albany area music scene should be interested in this release. Ray Rettig, another local performer, assisted in the mixing of the various pieces. Richard combines traditional keyboard instruments (synthesizers and pianos) with various "ethnic" percussive instruments (sansa, tabla, berimbau, Udu drum, etc.) to create a "world" music sound not unlike that of Steve Tibbetts. While side 2 tends to depart from the themes established on side 1, it was still interesting in places and well worth checking out. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

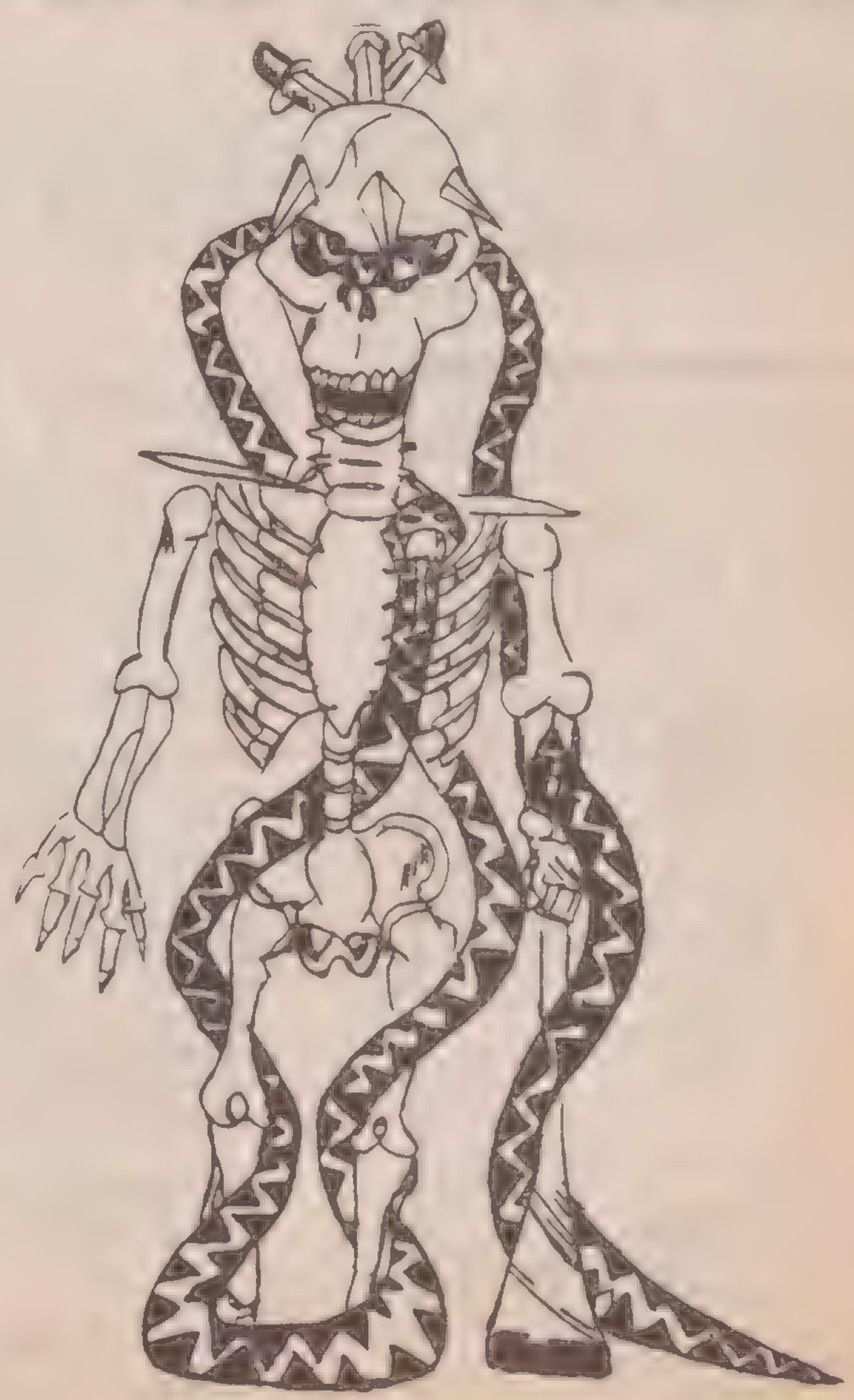
ROXY GORDON, "Crazy Horse Never Died" ($13 from Paperbacks Plus, 108 E. Davis, Mesquite, TX 75149): As Mike indicated in his review of the book in FF30, the poetry here is fantastic. What's special about this album is that unlike many other poets who read their work, Roxy really strives to make the music and poetry mesh as if it was one production — one piece of art. This a must buy! And note: after numerous phone calls I tracked-down the folks at Paperbacks Plus as a supplier. They're one of the few places in the states selling this retail and they told me that the $13 will cover the album, shipping, and handling to anywhere in the continental US. (LP/pj)

★★★★★

GREGORIAN GEORGE, "The Aluminum Bible" (Violet Glass Oracle Tapes, 6230 Lewis Ave. #105, Temperance, MI 48182): Throbbing, serious, repetitive, pseudo-environmental synth experimentation. A little sampling and vocals here and there. It's well packaged, but there's so much of this average level 4 track stuff out there, who really needs one or the other anyway? Better than most, but it just doesn't move me. At least this tape has a concept behind it — sort of a muddy reinterpretation of the creation and ensuing human history. (T/AG)

★★★★★

GREGORIAN GEORGE, "In Phaze Shift Reality" (Violet Glass Oracle Tapes, 6230 Lewis Ave. #105, Temperance, MI 48182): The title of this release probably does it more justice than any review I could come up with, but for the sake of those reading, I'll give it a shot: bursts of noise, static, fuzz and echo music squeaks, vocals coming and going in a consistent pattern. Take that and add to it whatever images the title has inspired and you have a fairly accurate description of what's going on here. (T/CS)



★★★★★

GREEN DAY, "1,000 Hours" (Lookout Records, PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): College rock fair and square with no bones about it.

It's catchy, the melodies are strong and punchy, and it sounds so incredibly familiar you swear you've heard it before. But you haven't and that's what makes this so nice. Despite the fact that it's a genre of music that's becoming cliche, the band manages to retain more than a shred of individuality. (EP/CS)

★★★★★

GREY DAYS, self-titled (Esync Ocular Interchange, PO Box 380621, Miami, FL 33138): Very full-sounding progressive rock with an impressive depth to it. You could dance to these tunes, or you could just do what I did, which is nod off as the music enfolds you. There's a sense of urgent immediacy to their playing which is a nice change from both mellow stuff and abrasive screaming. (CD3/MG)

★★★★★

HAPPY FLOWERS, "BB Gun" (Homestead Records, PO Box 800, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0800): More noise from these purveyors of youthful angst. The title cut is firearms run amok, while "Charlie Got a Haircut" showcases elementary age hate for anyone different. "I Ate Something Out of the Medicine Cabinet" is pretty self-explanatory. The music, all overfuzzed guitars and yelled lyrics, is as abrasive as ever. For collectors only. (45/MG)

★★★★★

HAPPY FLOWERS, "Oof" (Homestead Records, PO Box 800, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0800): Happy Flowers basically have no musical talent. Their lyrics are what have attracted all of the attention, as they express childhood anxieties and fears. But what's funny in small doses grows tired upon extended listening especially when coupled with annoying musical accompaniment. This is the kind of thing I could take listening to on the radio once in a while but I sure wouldn't shell out the bucks to own my own copy. (LP/KJ)

★★★★★

HEADBIRTH, "Walls Within Walls" (JS Laboratories, PO Box 710147, Houston, TX 77271): Neat name, neat offering. It's total headrush music. Your brain is strapped to the nose of a spacebound rocketship, you hear yourself rushing through the heavens towards infinity and then...side two...you're there. Weightless, ambient, eternal, all noise and sound and atmosphere. (T/CS)

★★★★★

HEAVY MENTAL, "Heavy Mental Live" (Persistant Productions, PO Box 777, Evanston, IL 60204): These guys have been missing for about three years, and it's nice to have them back. Actually, this recording covers most of those years, in particular their appearances at the Lincoln Park Peace Festival. Plenty of hot rock and roll, vaguely reminiscent of Country Joe and the Fish or Led Zeppelin or other dinosaurs, but with lots of verve. New version of "I Like Girls Who Smoke", the impromptu cover of "Hey Joe", and the electric guitar National Anthem are some of the best of the 15 cuts here. (T/MG)

★★★★★

HELLOWEEN, "I Want Out" (RCA Records, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): They got rave-up reviews in the CMJ NEW MUSIC REPORT, but they sound note-for-note like the stuff I listened to in high school: Iron Maiden, Judas Priest, and bands of that ilk. Maybe a little more intelligent. A must if you're 16 and frustrated. (LP/DW)

★★★★★

HELL'S KITCHEN, "If You Can't Take the Heat..." ($7 from Boner Records, PO Box 2081, Berkeley, CA 94702): Slightly nonserious speed metal. For the unintiated, that means they play electric guitars very fast and very loud until your head is ready to burst from the onslaught. The lack of seriousness? Well, besides covering a Spinal Tap tune, they do a suspiciously pro-drug number called "Mind Melt" and their semi-mandatory gang song is "War of the Gerbils". Fast, funny, and worth cranking up. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

HERMANOS GUZANOS, "Too Close to the Kitty" ($5 from Darrell Draeger, PO Box 1425, Bakersfield, CA 93302): Sun-baked and somewhat murky guitar-laden rock. The songs have titles like "Intimidating" and "I'm a Worm" and the exuberance to match. Skull-battering tunes, one with lyrics by the notorious D. Worden. Not college radio material for sure. (T/MG)

★★★★★

HOLLYROCK, "Hollyrock II" (Life & Death Records, PO Box 3654, Hollywood, CA 90078): Everyone has to do something to relax; this seems to fulfill that function for X drummer DJ Bonebrake (plus a couple of guitar players). They lay down some bluesy, rockabilly-tinged rock with a lot of energy and even more sense of fun. Plenty of cool lead guitar playing from Honey Davis leads into the final cut, a hot cover of "I Want Candy". (LP/MG)

★★★★★

HOMEMADE SIN, "Songs of Bliss" ($4 from Tribal Records c/o Sid Williams, 1432 Fresno Rd., Wilmington, DE 19803): Power metal thrash music suitable for replacing the bug zapper in your yard with. They play a very solid music, heavy in the low frequencies and full of energy. Not too polished or professional, but rather engagingly raw. (T/MG)

★★★★★

HONOR ROLE, "Rictus" (Homestead Records, PO Box 800, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0800): Bouncy unique music — some cuts are so bouncy and full of sudden changes of direction that I checked to make sure the needle was staying on the record. It was, and it stayed there right through the moody instrumental "Break the Ice" which closes the album. There's a lot of maturity here, as well as a strong unique sound which owes something to both noise rock and more mellow genres. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

TERRY HORN, "Ten Pounds of Spam (In a 5 lb Bag)" (Little Hill Records, PO Box 20321, Greely Square Stn., New York, NY 10001-9992): Heavy, low-down, get-down baby urban cool adult funky smokey blues pop that works hard for its money and takes home the bacon and could fry it up in the pan, to boot, but it doesn't want to get its hands dirty, and besides, wouldn't you rather go out and grab a burger? (LP/CS)

★★★★★

HOTEL HUNGER, "This is Where the Fun Starts" (Megaforce, 63-64 Brunswick Woods Dr., East Brunswick, NJ 08816): Like the label sez — the fun starts here and don't you forget it (the band certainly won't let you!). Normally Megaforce is known for their metal bands — this is the first "non-metal" band to strike their fancy, and if you're wondering what got into them take a listen: this is strong power pop with conviction not unlike U2, but with less of a spiritual thrust to the music and more of a harder (hmm...shall we say metallic?) approach. There's a lot of kick to this. (T/CS)

★★★★★

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THE ADVENTURES OF HEAVY MENTAL is a comic in the same vain as the Freak Bros. Publications. It is the first in a series we have planned. Many who have seen HEAVY MENTAL'S posters have suggested we do a comic book. So, we did. Will Ronald Reagan assasinate our Heavy Mental heroes? Will John Kinkly, who breaks out of San Quentin, get another crack at Ronald Reagan? The Cast of Characters also includes: Popie the sailor, Geraldo Rivera, Edwin Meese, Dan Quayle and his wife, George Bush, and we couldn't forget Batman and Robin. WARNING: Though the content isn't really pornographic, the material may be offensive to parents, Geraldo Rivera fans, and most definitely CONSERVATIVES. So, don't say we didn't warn you! Oh yes, the price is $2.00.

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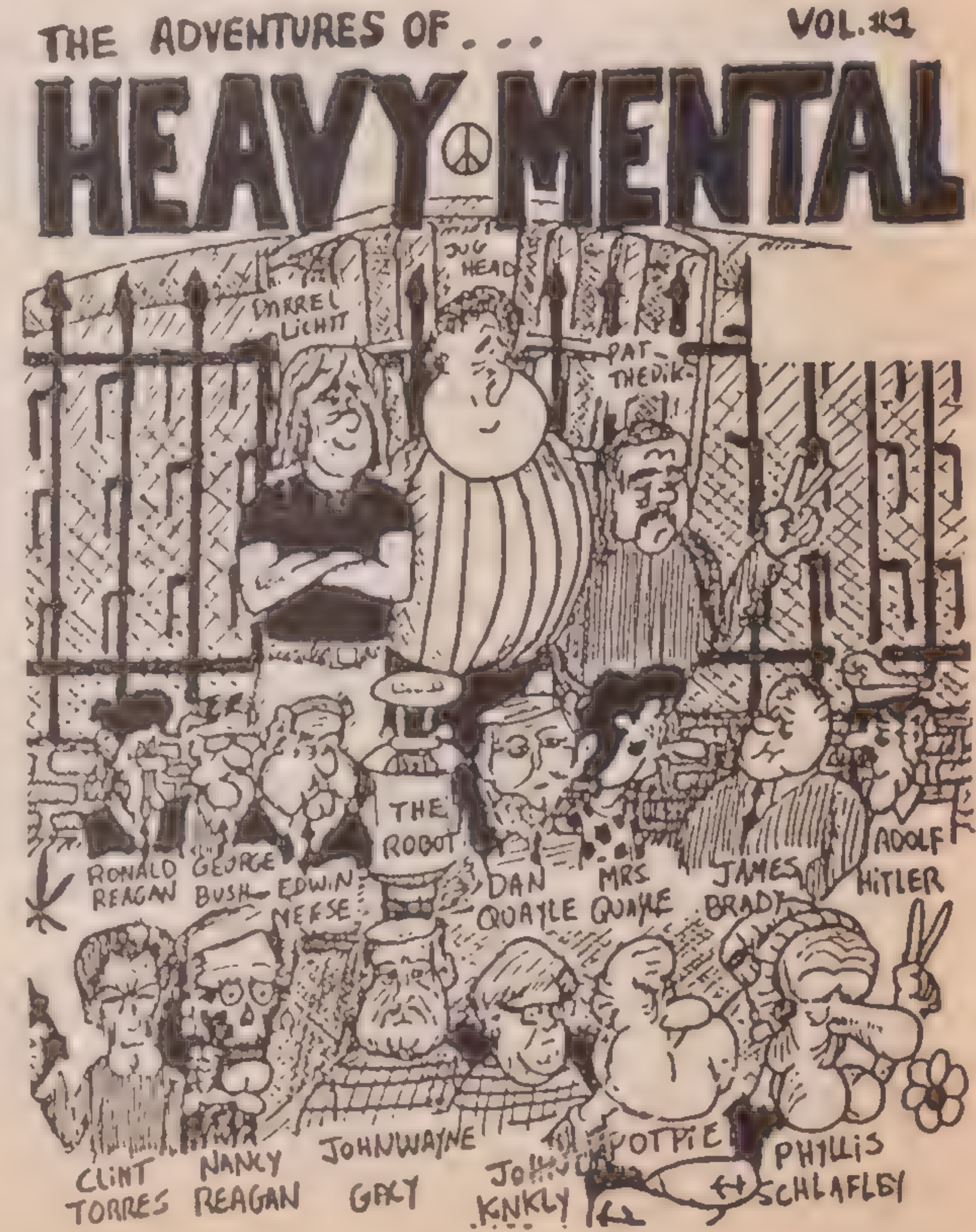

MICHAEL HOWARD, "Voices Old and New" ($5 from Al Margolis, Sound of Pig Music, Box 150022, Van Brunt Stn., Brooklyn, NY 11215): What do amusement parks and musical compositions have in common? It's to long to go into here — suffice it to say that Michael Howard finds a lot of inspiration in them — as witnessed by the material here, a collage of amusement park sounds unstructured in style and presentation but not in direction. The emphasis is less on *instruments* and more on the blending of *real life sounds* into a musical format. Interesting and unique. (T/CS)

★★★★★

JOHN HUDAK, "Emerald Tablets of Hermes Trismegistus" ($5 from PO Box 7784, Philadelphia, PA 19101-7784): The compositions on this tape are not so much performed as assembled, put together from outside sources of noise in the hopes of making them art. The A side has drums, distorted operatic vocals, and electronic noises; the flip is all rocks or something falling down, down, down, making a great clatter as they go. The experiment goes on too long and is thus only moderately successful; with some tightening and amplification by other ideas, it could be more interesting. (T/MG)

★★★★★

HUMAN DRAMA, "Hopes Prayers, Dreams, Heart, Soul, Mind, Love, Life, Death" (RCA Records, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036-6758): The title is nearly as long as the music on this EP, but that doesn't really detract from its appeal. These boys play an intensely personal music with deep textures and an almost angelic, uplifting, religious quality about them. Even the cover of "Old Man" somehow seems Very Important and refreshing when they get done with it. Like wiping the hair out of your eyes and seeing the world anew. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

HUNGER ARTIST, "Who Changed?" ($2.75 from Hippycore, PO Box 195, Mesa, AZ 85211): Generic hardcore with fervor not unlike some of what Fear was doing, but lacking the distinction to really carve out a niche for itself. Part of the problem is that the vocals are really poorly produced, the other part is that after two songs or so the melodies start to sound alike. As far as delivery, though, it's tight and taut and fast. (EP/CS)

★★★★★

THE HUNGRY DUTCHMEN, "The Windmills of Your Mind" (Black Tulip Records, 56 Cleveland Ave., Nutley, NJ 07110): Bouncy poppy rock with a maturity of style that makes it a pleasure to listen to. They do silly love songs ("Slouching Down" as well as more bizarre tunes ("Panic in the Airwaves"). Home-produced on a 4-track, but they've gotten a lot out of the format and I wouldn't mind tapping along to this over the airwaves. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THEE HYPNOTICS, "Justice in Freedom" (Beggars Banquet, 274 Madison Ave. #804, New York, NY 10016): A British retro-rock band that sees their sound as a fusion of MC5 and early Stones. They have the furious guitar to bring this off, and while the vocals aren't any great shakes, they weren't in a lot of classic rock either. Sounds like it would go well with large amounts of dangerous chemicals. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

IAO CORE, "A Thousand Points of Light" (326 Dogwood Dr., Walnut Creek, CA 94598): Or at the very least a dozen different styles of electronic music. Works run from oddball pop/rock to altered vocals ("Amazing Asian Children") to sampled raw noises arranged in a sort of tone poem to synthesizer madness. They cover a lot of music ground, never lingering too long, and the listener has to work to keep up. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ICEPLANTS, "Done By The Iceplants" (Small Tools Tradition, PO Box 8005, #239, Boulder, CO 80306-8005): I don't understand how something this noisy can sound this minimalist. The core of their sound is piano plus found percussion, put together with eerie vocals and very elusive vocals. Whether singing about Lenin's tomb or the lust for money they sound almost detached, in the world but not of it, making extraterrestrial comments on our predicament. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

IMPACT, "Minds In Collision" (M&M Music, PO Box 38, Cover, OR 97824): This demo tape features words and vocals by John Shirley and eerie music by Michael Chocholak — a must for students of marginal literature. Very much over the edge, the tracks start with "The Thing That Lives in Washington" and end with "No Apologies to Kafka", cranking the screws down on a feeling of doom until it pours forth in relentless sonic nightmares. Could be the in music for the 90's, if we survive that long. (T/MG)

★★★★★

IMPS OF THE PERVERSE, self-titled (Ugly American Tapes, c/o Greg Chapman, Box 2061, Stockton State College, Pomona, NJ 08240): Murky synthesizer music with an occasional overlay of chopped-up and sampled porn movie soundtracks. The music tends towards the gothic side, but doesn't really stand out well. (T/MG)

★★★★★

JACK SCRATCH, demo tape (1536 N. Oakley, Chicago, IL 60622): I might call this postpunk if I thought that term meant anything. In any case it's fairly bombastic rock, but behind the facade there is real talent & good production. Plenty is going on in these sixteen tracks, with a guitar-munch assault and high-mixed drums leading the way. Fairly simple song structures get well worked and then let go of before they get old. I'll watch for some vinyl. (T/MG)

★★★★★

JING, self-titled (AIR, 285 W. Broadway #300, New York, NY 10013): Jagged-edge pop with lead vocals somewhat reminiscent of Elvis Costello, though without nearly as much pointless angst. Arthur Zing and his crew of guitarists and keyboardists, together with John Gerber on sax, put together 10 hook-filled tunes, some slow and some hard-driving (like "World Gone Mad"). Pleasant and rather timeless pop. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

MICHAEL JOHNSON AND THE KILLER BEES, "Live in Berlin" ($8 from ROIR, 611 Broadway #411, New York, NY 10012): Live reggae from one of the few American groups that's made an international reputation for itself. This is pretty mellow stuff, loaded with horns and bounce, but with an underlying vein of seriousness. Check out the politically-consciou "Botha" or "Ganja Man". Good stuff. (T/MG)

★★★★★

KAMALA AND THE KARNIVORES, "Girl Band" (Lookout! Records, PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): Purely enjoyable rock with somewhat snide lyrics; one song to get your boyfriend back by, one to break up with him by, one for crazy days and one for gardening ("Black Thumb"). The sound is gentle, rock-based with just a hint of something harder in reserve. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

KAT THANG, "No One Stops the Cowcore Cowboys" (Cowcore Records, 44 Perry St., New London, CT 06320): Paisley cow swamp core inspired as much by The Replacements as by The Doors as by Johnny Cash as by The Cramps. Enjoyable and very promising. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

KENNY AND THE CLING-TONES, "Music to Make Cows Very Happy — Very Happy Indeed!" (Kitti Tapes, 312 N. 3rd Ave., Highland Park, NJ 08904): Ken Clinger does vocals here while Dan Fioretti contributes cheesy keyboards with a distinct overtone of that cheap organ you had as a kid. The subject is the visual media, with most of the B side being nearly spoken-word tributes to things like Repo Man of the Brady Bunch. The rest of the tape is a soundtrack for the movie "Sallymae of the Green Sea". Exuberant but a bit amateurish. (T/MG)

★★★★★

KING FELIX, "Owl Plane Crash" ($10 from Esync Ocular Interchange, PO Box 380621, Miami, FL 33238-06621): Electronic music that is y turns jarring and soothingly entrancing. All of the composition and most of the performance here is by Felix, though other musicians help out when he needs a guitar to process. The music moves with a rather ponderous weight, in no hurry to get to its destination but big enough to bulldoze the listener along with it. (T/MG — also available on DAT for $15)

★★★★★

KING KONG, self-titled (2425 Bardstown Rd., Louisville, KY 40205): A very interesting release. The vocals are sort of monotonal dark-rock, drone-dirge; the music is in that vein but leans in and out of a much wider array of influences. The guitars wail like late 60's acid rock and that, incorporated with the dirge, grunge factor makes for a neat mix. Then there's this sort of offbeat atmosphere to the whole thing that makes you wonder where they'll be going next. (45/CS)

★★★★★

KING VITAMIN, "Breakfast With the King" (Sensitive Records, 3611 N. Wilton, Chicago, IL 60613): Somewhat retro-rock that is deeply flawed in the vocals — like, there aren't any really worth listening to. Even with the guitarist & bass player trading off, they can't manage much beyond atonality, making it a chore to listen to despite the high-power playing. Find a front man, guys. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

KONSTRUKTIVISTS, "N.J.V.D. Compilation" (Carl Howard, aT, 209-25 18th Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): A tape of unreleased music from 1981-1982 that features Konstruktivists but also contains some material from Vagina Dentata Organ and N.K.V.D. Konstruktivists' brand of nihilist Eno has always been pleasing to my ears, with "The White Winds" and "Orange Hymn" being my favorites in this tape. Turn on the Konstruktivists, lock the doors, turn out the lights, and listen... (T/KJ)

★★★★★

KOOL MOE DEE, "Knowledge Is King" (Jive/RCA, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): Impressive rap, not only because the beat is infectious, but because Kool Moe Dee (Mr. Dee, I suppose, to the NEW YORK TIMES) has something to say. The title cut, for example, plus spiritual knowledge as part of the answer, while the concluding "Pump Your Fist" pushes for self-knowledge and unity. Anti-drugs, anti-violence (and a bit anti-woman in spots), this is every bit as polticaily astute as the best thoughtful punk songs. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

TULI KUPFERBERG, "Tuli & Friends" ($7 from Shimmy-Disc, JAF Box 1187, New York, NY 10116): I suppose you might call Tuli a poet. Or an anarchist. I'll settle for "brilliant". The 22 pieces here, many just Tuli, a few with accompaniment, poke fun at everything from SDI to *glasnost*, from the allegedly independent press to the strange death of John Belushi. For historical interest there's Wobbly Ralph Chaplin's "Mourn Not the Dead"; for those fighting gentrification, an update of "Way Down South in Greenwich Village"; for anyone disgusted with the system, there's a whole platter, including "Go Fuck Yourself (With Your Atom Bomb)" and "The CIA Was Eating Beans". Definitely recommended. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

KWAME, "The Boy Genius Featuring a New Beginning" (Atlantic Records, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019): About a 50-50 mix of rap and technology, with the 17-year-old Kwame in front of a PC on the album cover. Plenty of electronics here as well as interwoven vocals from a backup chorus, featuring some of the usual rap topics — chiefly what a great guy Kwame is, and how much he appreciates the women and culture around him. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

LABRAT, self-titled ($4 from Big Body Parts, 3031 E. Platte #2, Colorado Springs, CO 80909): Incredibly aggressive abrasive experimental noise (I hesitate to call it "music"). Feedback and synthesizers and found sounds all mixed together in manic intensity. Now that the tape is over, it seems very very quiet in here. (T/MG)

★★★★★

CHRIS LANE, ANDREW FRANCK, and **JOAKIM LARTEY**, "Maps for Dreaming" (Dream Brook Arts, 167 W. Hurley Rd., Woodstock, NY 12498): Music that treads close to the line of no-music. Combining drums, guitar and synthesizer to form a quite ambient sound, these three guys apparently let the music rather than their heads dictate what comes next, resulting in a challenging sound which is hard to get into. It's evocative and even interesting, but is it music? (T/MG)

★★★★★

LAST MINUTE PRODUCTIONS, "So Fucking What" ($2.50 from Chris Caggiano, 1737 Grove St. #1, Ridgewood, NJ 11385): So fucking what is right...who the hell cares about an hour and a half of horribly taped bootleg compilation (Side by Side, Youth of Today, etc., ad nauseum) reproduced frighteningly badly (the static/slur/music/noise switches between speakers) on the type of cassette you find in bags of 6 and 12 at the cash register at the Stop and Shop? $2.50 for this? Give me a break! It says that all proceeds from this tape go to the Anarchist Switchboard in NYC...too bad there won't *be* any. (T/AG)

★★★★★

THE LEAVING TRAINS, "transportational d.vices" (SST Records, PO Box 1, Lawndale, CA 90260): A quartet in the three-guitars-and-a-drum-kit tradition, cranking out quite a bit of good pure rock with plenty of vocal harmony. In a bizarre note the song "Dead Days" is dedicated to our own Shane Williams, the rock and roll bank robber. Good stuff, and likely to get a lot more critical attention than their previous album, "Fuck". (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE LOOKOUTS, "Spy Rock Road" (Lookout! Records, PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): This is sort of nth-generation punk; fast and driving, but with a mellower sound to it and vocals that stand out and make sense. They sing about alienation or living in the city or ecosystems collapsing — fun things like that. (Well, there's also one about friends). Sort of a combination of the 60's and the 80's self-propelling into the 90's. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

LUNACHICKS, self-titled (Blast First, 262 Mott St. #324, New York, NY 10012): These five women pump out a wild fast-paced fuzz-guitar assault that refuses to take the world seriously even while it's shattering the wineglasses. Their original tunes include a paean to Jan Brady and "Makin' It (With Other Species)" and their one cover tune comes from a Herschel Gordon lewis movie ("Get Off the Road".) A dual-single set in a gloriously tacky full-color gatefold sleeve. (2-45/MG)

★★★★★

LYCIA, "Wake" (Orphanage, 1702 W. Camelback #315, Phoenix, AZ 85015): Sad, droopingly haunting electronic-dance evocative of grey misty rain, fallen gargoyles off huge British manors and soggy fields of heather. (T/CS)

★★★★★

LYSDEXIC, "Checking Gaskets" b/w "Overload" (Vital Music, 263 E. 10th St., New York, NY 10009): Jittery, skittery dance music with little bits of synth and vocals dropped in on top of a strong rhythm track. The group features Debra Adele, borrowed from False Prophets, on guitar, and an elusive mindset that keeps the record from falling into any one particular groove. An eerie experience. (EP/MG)

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MADBALL, "Ball of Destruction" (In-Effect, 187-07 Henderson Ave., Hollis, NY 11423): A thrash hardcore outfit composed of members of Agnostic Front plus 12-year-old Freddie Cricien. They weigh in here with 8 songs, most under a minute long, heavy on rapid-fire guitar playing and growled angry vocals. Proof that you don't have to be 22 to sound the same as any other thrash vocalist. (45/MG)

★★★★★

THE MAD PROFESSOR meets **PULS DER ZEIT** "At Checkpoint Charlie" ($8 from ROIR, 611 Broadway #411, New York, NY 10012): A wild rock-and-reggae combination featuring processing & production genius The Mad Professor and German band Puls Der Zeit. The result is music that partakes of many cultures and traditions but is centered in reggae, played as a duet between the two bands in alternating tracks. Great processing and cool bass lines makes for an entrancing experience. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MALARIA, "...Revisited" ($8 from ROIR, 611 Broadway #411, New York, NY 10012): Really ominous and dark rock from a five-piece all-female German band that no one will accuse of being a "girl group". The songs are mixed German and English, and although this is from a live recording the production is incredibly clean and crisp. A nearly overwhelming experience for late at night, all low powerful vocals and slow harsh rhythms and grinding guitar. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MAN OVERBOARD, demo tape ($3 from Frank Kolanko,, 28 Randall St., Greenville, RI 02828-2123): A short poppy teaser that shows promise for the future. There's two songs here, "Sleepless Nights" and "The Cutting Edge (of Love)", and both rely on a combination of vocal harmonies and traditional pop-rock playing. I could stand to listen to a few more tunes from these guys. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MARILYN'S ARMY, self-titled ($4 from Claus Korn, Alte Burgstr. 7, D-8830 Treuchtlingen, WEST GERMANY): What a bizarrely hauntingly appealing release, bringing to mind equally Kurt Vonnegut stories, Marlene Deitrich movies and Joy Division music. It glimmers with dark appeal. (45/CS)

★★★★★

MARS EVERYWHERE, "Visitor Parking" (Carl Howard, aT, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): An extremely difficult release to review. Through the speakers, it drove my dogs to fits; through headphones, it did the same to my frontal lobe. Lengthy near-ambient pieces heavily anchored by electronic tones, theramins, Tesla coils and the like. "Calling Bats" apparently did just that when it was played in live concert in the park. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MARY MY HOPE, "Museum" (Silvertone/RCA, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): A very spacious sound here that had me sneaking back to the stereo every other song to turn the volume up; it invites total immersion. There's an ominous tone to these songs, in the moody guitar lines, the emotional vocals and the subject matter — religion, love, death, angst, existence. A band that tries to get to the core of the world and succeeds pretty well. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

SARA McLACHLAN, "Touch" (Arista, 6 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019): Tender and welcoming, a renaissance tapestry of delicate richness and vibrant melancholy. McLachlan calls to mind Annie Haslam, Kate Bush and Jane Sibbery in style and creativity, while incorporating some of the creative quirkiness indicative of Peter Gabriel's work. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

MENTAL ANGUISH "Asshole" (Harsh Reality Music, PO Box 241661, Memphis, TN 38124-1661): Most of this tape is ambient industrial noise with voice motifs sometimes over a steady crunching beat, sometimes left to wander. "Land of Nod" is pretty and sleepy and sounds like it's title. The title track repeats the title over and over over some other noise. (T/CR)

★★★★★

THE MEN THEY COULDN'T HANG, "Silvertown" (Silvertone Records, c/o RCA, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): From Wales, Scotland and Yorkshire come the personnel of this infectious "Celt-pop" band with just a touch of punk anger and harshness in their music. Politically aware lyrics alternate with lighter tunes, and the music goes from electric bazouki to near-swing. Fun stuff, especially "A Place in the Sun" with its abortive tale of trying to strike it rich across the channel. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE MIRACLE, "Dingsters at the Break of Dong/Jammus Interruptus" (Sound of Pig Music, Box 150022, Van Brunt Stn., Brooklyn, NY 11215): Two jungles (vegetative and concrete) meet in a great splash of improvisational music in these excerpts from longer pieces. The one supplies strange animal noises, unusual wind instruments and tribel rhythms; the other adds industrial percussion and a modern jazz feeling. Just a bit beyond the pale of normal instrumentals, close enough to beckon seductively. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MJB-89, "Charm" (Black Tulip Records, 56 Cleveland Ave., Nutley, NJ 07110): A solo project of Michael Bowman, the drummer for the Hungry Dutchmen. This is a different sound, not as full as the whole group, and with more of a light, roots rock feel to it. The best cuts, like "Modern Dance" and "Steady Job Manifesto", are quite fun, even danceable, and this is a fine solo tape. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE LARRY MONDELLO BAND, "Live at the Populous Pudding" ($6 from Steven Defoe, PO Box 451, Collinsville, CT 06022): Dark and moody jamming interspersed with tinny recordings from a happier middle-class America. The result is to overload the senses and break the mind down into gibbering fits, prodded along by the distorted guitars and the madman-vicious vocals. A fine set, from "Bug Up My Ass" to "Pretty Nurse (Melts Into the Building)". (T/MG)

★★★★★

MOOD SWING, "Of" (C&P Records, 109 Minna St. #341, San Francisco, CA 94105): Seven minutes of somewhat nondescript vaguely new wave rock recorded live. This is the sort of band that you wouldn't mind hearing in a club, but when you woke up the next morning there would be no recollection of what they played, because nothing grabbed you. Pleasant, almost pretty, but not moving. (45/MG)

★★★★★

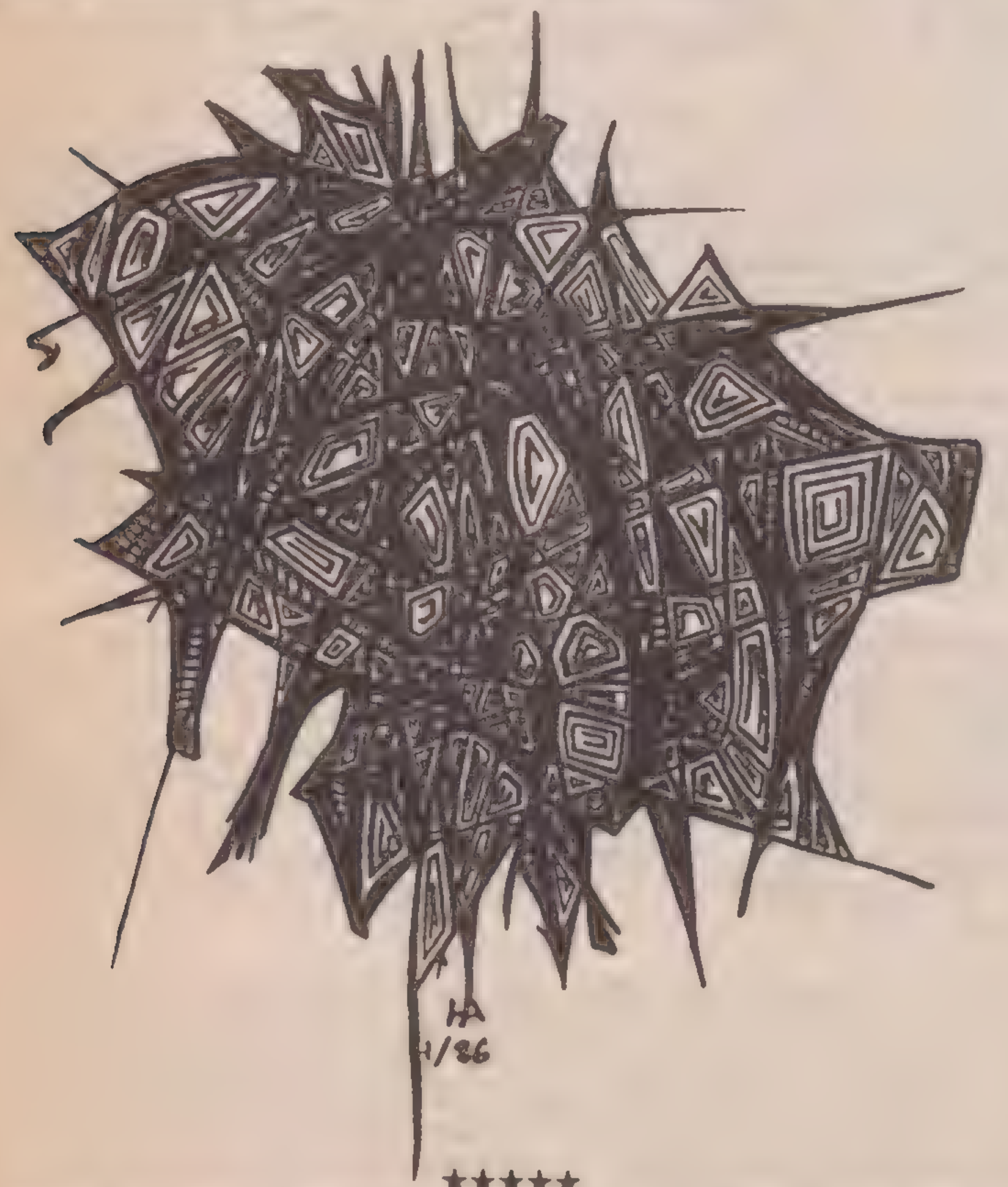
MORAL CRUX, "The Side Effects of Thinking" (Polemic Records, PO Box 1516, Moses Lake, WA 98837): That's an apt label for these punk rockers, for they've got a very preachy set of lyrics. Then again they've got the intelligence to pull it off, and the guitar-laden heavy sound to make it feel good deep in the chest as well. Some definite airplay potential here. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

MOUTH BANDITS, "St. Mary's Road" ($6.50 from Craig Johnson, Spare Change Studios, 1302 E. Michigan, Urbana, IL 61801): My favorite purveyors of pop dance strangeness are back again with a new tape, complete with lyric sheet this time. Some of these songs are just sort of surreal, like "Slumber", a dream-song with heavy psychological overtones. Others, like the C&W-tinged "Allah's TNT" (about a Beirut trucker) are more darkly satirical. Bizarre underground rock opera that stands up well. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MOVING MANTELPIECE, "Relation☆Ship" ($5 from Kyle Murray, 3307 Hampton, Austin, TX 78705): A mix of stuff that starts out with purely synthetic work — ranging from Casio insipid to something reminiscent of spaghetti Western theme music to quite experimental stuff. On the flip, Kyle comes up with some more traditionally structured songs and poems, though the vocals still are processed on most of them. No real defined core here, just someone playing with several ideas. (T/MG)



★★★★★

THE MUMBLES, "Raydean" (PO Box 8312, Wichita, KS 67208): Now this is an identity crisis if ever there was one: Cramps, Elvis, Robert Palmer, Billy Idol...and every person who heard this tape while I was listening to it came up with a comparison to match. It's a shame because there's good musicianship to be found here — but it needs a serious personality to become distinctly memorable. (T/CS)

★★★★★

ROBERT MUSSO, "Absolute Music" (Mu Productions, 111 4th Ave. #5A, New York, NY 10003): The core of this release is the stringed instrument — indeed, it's all strings, despite tricks designed to make you think of synthesizers and even drum machines. Between acoustic, electronic and treated instruments Robert comes up with a sort of jazz/New Age/ethnic fusion sound, laying down instrumentals that bounce along and switch pace unexpectedly. Never dull, never pigeonholed. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

MYSTERY HEARSAY, "Halos and Horns" (Carl Howard, aT, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): This is Mike Hunnicutt's electronic project, and he rings through a lot of changes on this carefully-manicured tape. The 9 pieces here span the range from flickering whimsy to moody introspection to carefully constrained experimentation. The tape ends on an eerie note, suggesting more aural lands to be traveled in future releases. (T/MG)

★★★★★

NAKED RAYGUN, "Treason" (Caroline Records, 114 W. 26th St., New York, NY 10001): This may not be readily available, as it's a 2500-copy pink vinyl promo version, but on the other hand there were still 490 left after the one they sent me. The A side is the track "Treason" from the "Understand" album, while the flip has a pair of fierce live otherwise-unreleased tracks, of which the closing "I Don't Know" gets my nod. High-powered and furious rock that relates to punk but isn't constrained by it. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

NIRVANA IGUANA, untitled (PO Box 751912, Memphis, TN 38175-1912): Enigmatic electronic music which is anything but relaxing. Most of this is full of rapid-fire notes, trimmed down to sound like the archetypical computer sounds we remember from the 50's and 60's movies. Themes dart quickly in and out, never quite getting nailed down. A challenging tape, simply by its refusal to slow down to a contemplative pace for more than a moment. (T/MG)

★★★★★

OLD SKULL, "Get Outta School" (Restless Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Somewhere between a joke and a punk record. Billed on the cover sticker as "The Youngest Punk Band In the World!", with members aged 8,9, and 9, they crank out a good deal of sloppy, feedback-laden playing. Lyrics are more screamed than sung (no mature trained vocals here) and deal with childhood nightmares (like hot dogs) and social issues (like homelessness). Hard to believe that they do it all on their own, but amusing anyhow. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

ROB OMLIT, "Never Mind the Pun, Crok, Here's the Real Shit!" (PO Box 127, Anaheim, CA 92815): What can you say about a tape that starts with the sound of a toilet flushing — and where that's about the most music sound? Wailing, whining, static, clanking, and non-musical vocals combine to make this an audio torture test. An argument for tape recorder control that only the most hardened can possibly sit through. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ONLY A MOTHER, "The Romantic Warped" (Private Studios, PO Box 531, Wyandotte, MI 48192): Great heavy-duty pop-rock with a stunning array of horns, percussion, and stranger instruments (credited ssound sources includes "Sheet metal wakka", "fish" and "stereo carpet scratching"). The lyrics are as bizarre as this might lead you to expect: "Trigger Happy" is a collection of contradictory cliches, "Rubbydubs, Mugwumps and Wobblies" a statement on politics, and "Doodley Squat" tries to put John Hinckley into perspective. Also includes a couple of fine energetic instrumentals. This one had me smiling widely before the first side was over. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

OPERATION IVY, "Energy" ($6 from Lookout Records, PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): High-energy rock with a punk flavor; fast and loud, but not impossibly so. Lots of rebellious songs and brain-churning guitar playing, wild sax, and a general good time. Obviously not everyone out that way is completely zoned out on pot. There's a reason these guys are so popular, and that's that they play damned good music in the crank-it-up vein. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

OUT OF THE FIRE, "Into The Frying Pan" (Blast Records, PO Box 292072, Hollywood, CA 90029): Fun psychedelic rock featuring a guitarist named Possum and ex-Pandora Julie Patchouli sharing the vocal chores. They play best at their silliest, with "Shopping Cart Murders" having an appealing garage sound to it. Not overproduced to death, but still showing a polish that gets them out of the pack. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE PAGAN PATHFINDERS GOD EVOCATIONS ($6 *CASH* from The Neopantheist Society, BCM/OPAL, London WC1N 3XX, ENGLAND): A set of 11 evvocations to various gods (chiefly from the Greek pantheon, though Nu and Magna Mater are also included), read by Jean Williams and separated by short musical interludes of guitar and bells. Each lasts a few minutes, and concludes by asking the god to come "in body and in spirit". Comes with a list of suggested incense for each evocation. (T/MG)

★★★★★

PBK "Appeal" (115 W. 33rd, San Bernardino, CA 92405): Mostly ambient industrial noise—starts off with a nightmare vacuum cleaner sound and later we hear what sounds like a crying baby. There's a churning sound in the background mostly through the tape. Occasionally a voice or some bit of melody for variety. (T/CR)

★★★★★

PBK, "Asesino" (115 W. 33rd, San Bernardino, CA 92405): Tough listening can be just that, tough. But it can still be damn good, as evidenced by this release from PBK. These guys hit you with deep rumbles, piercing feedback and crunching, hammering rhythms as well as a welcome ambient piece in the middle of the carnage. They don't make it perfect on every track (B2 was a little on the dull side), but there is an underlying theme amid the clutter that slowly builds until it has folded itself around the dissonance and blends into the environment. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

PERSON TO PERSON, "Sez" (Boyajy Productions, 496 Hudson St. F34, New York, NY 10014): Hot and danceable funky pop with crystal sharp edges. They do everything from antiwar tunes to love songs, sort of a 60's lyric sense combined with advanced 80's music. The beat doesn't stop, the guitar work and intertwined vocals won't let up, and the sharp horn blowing in and out is the apt final touch. Great music. (T/MG)

★★★★★

PHONOSTATIC #9 ($4 from 911 N. Dodge St., Iowa City, IA 52245): An "audio collage" of works which have limited outlets: chiefly verbals experimentation, electronic wizardry, and tapes produced by rapid-fire editing of diverse sources. Contributors include Jake Berry, Post-Void Radio Theater, The Tape-Beatles, and Chris Winkler. A baffling experience full of rapid-fire cuts from one piece to the next. Comes with addresses for the contributors. (T/MG)

★★★★★

PINK TORPEDOES, "Rock is Fuckin'" (Flesh Tuxedo Productions, 3907 Wilbert Rd., Rear, Austin, TX 78751): Armed with a noise/effects machine they sally south to explore some fine musical territory. The basis for most of this is swamp-rock-punkabilly music that's been warped and re-bent into shape to accommodate a dozen or so other types of influences as well. (T/CS)

★★★★★

PIXIES, "Doolittle" (Elektra/Asylum Records, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019): This is something of a major label debut for these pop darlings, out on 4AD but distributed by Elektra. It has a tighter sound than their previous albums, with fewer flights into wild experimentalism and a few radio hits, but that seems to be maturity rather than sellout. If you missed the boat on the Pixies, now may be the time to remedy that, as you can enjoy a full but still challenging sound. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

PIXIES, "Surfer Rosa" (4 AD US, 611 Broadway #536, New York, NY 10012): Whipsaw-sharp pop with very hard edges indeed, but lacking the guitar assaults of straight rock. Strange vocal harmonies, seemingly endless riffs, and evanescent lyrics add up to a confusing listen the first few times, but it settles down and gets enjoyable with familiarity. Success has allowed them to get a bit cute on the mix — I could have done without the interchanges with studio personnel — but that's just a minor complaint. (LP/MG)

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PLAN 9, "Ham and Sam Jammin'" (Restless Records, 11264 Playa Ct., Culver City, CA 90231-3628): The eighth record from this hard to pin down group is less psychedelic and harder edged than before. They still serve up a complex mix of sounds, with bits of violin works and crazy keyboard effects. Club life, love, dreams and nightmares are the stuff of the lyrics here, for a record that goes well with the substance abuse of your choice. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

POLAR GIRAFFE, "Bad Trip" ($5 from Bill Weita, PO Box 257, Kent, OH 44240): This tape can be simply described as high energy psychedelic feedback similar to what Syd Barrett might be producing today if he was part of the noise revolution. They utilize backwards loops, subliminal messages and oft-repeated lyrical passages with his noise to create the "bad trip". Some trips are good, some trips are bad, and some trips are good and bad. This is definitely the latter. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

DAVID PRESCOTT, "From Chance to Probability" (Generations Unlimited, 199 Strathmore #5, Brighton, MA 02135-5210): A GU release on vinyl, and one deserving of the honor. David puts together electronic music that is not wall-to-wall keyboards, one which has a lot of chewiness to it. Bubblings, wailings, deep rivers and currents of sound flow through the connected pieces here. Challenging yet refreshing. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

BILL PRICE, "Squeezing Light" ($6 from 102A Washington St., Sherborn, MA 01770): Bill's debut cassette features two electronic compositions: "Cryptoplasm" and "Squeezing Light", a live improvisation on a memory Moog. Both compositions are rather redious and don't provide the listener with any radical new concepts in electronic composition. Still, not bad for a first effort. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

PRINCE FAR I AND THE ARABS, "Cry Tuff Dub Encounter Chapter 1" ($8 from ROIR, 611 Broadway #411, New York, NY 10012): This one didn't excite me as much as some dub releases. That's not to say I didn't like it, only that the interwoven rhythms and melodies are so mellow as to continually recede, soothing the blood rather than boiling it. Recorded in conjunction with Adrian Sherwood, this is an example of the unexpected synthesis that reggae and rock can produce. (T/MG)

★★★★★

PUSSY GALORE, "Dial M For Motherfucker" (Caroline Records, 5 Crosby St., New York, NY 10013): We all used to bang on pots and pans when we were kids. I still do, and apparently so do the members of this indie band. They're more concerned with making noise than making melodies, and despite the melodic echoes of garage rock, this is a harsh and grating release. By the way, the album name is abbreviated to just the first two words on the jacket, so you can ask for it in the store. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

DAVID R., "So Far" (1021 Duncan St., San Francisco, CA 94131): A self-produced tape of four-track rock that shows definite potential. David has sort of a low dark style, with basic guitar riffs and various programmed effects interwoven with his rather affecting voice. Besides thoughtful tunes of love and life, there's also some experimental work, like the partially cut-up "Raygun on Libya". (T/MG)

★★★★★

BONNIE RAITT, "Nick of Time" (Capitol Records, 1750 N. Vine St., Hollywood, CA): Bonnie Raitt has always been underrated as a singer and performer, and this release is yet another testimony as to why she ought not to be. Strong, gutsy and rootsy, she plays and sings with a breezy swagger that is refreshing and entertaining. Here she attempts to jump into the mainstream with a little help from notables such as Don Was and Herbie Hancock. But in the end it's really Raitt who makes this record what it is: all the gilding in the world can't improve on this lily, it can only enhance it. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

RATS OF UNUSUAL SIZE, "Ratzilla" (Vital Music, 263 E. 10th St., New York, NY 10009): Fun and sloppy rock with pop influences and a weird sense of humor. There's at least one potential hit here, "Pope is Packed", about a pontiff who's mad as hell and won't take it any more. Other topics for their wild musical mayhem include David Berkowitz, Elvis, psychedelia, and "House Band From Hell". On candy apple red vinyl too, just for you collectors. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

RELENTLESS, "Uninhibited" (Al Margolis, Sound of Pig Music, PO Box 150022, Van Brunt Stn., Brooklyn, NY 11215-0001): Experimental music (?) featuring rather minimalist synthesizer compositions combined with found sounds. "Don From Lakewood" is perhaps representative, with its recording of telephone calls between a store and a recalcitrant customer, with gentle melodies fading in and out around the voices. (T/MG)

★★★★★

RIPCORD, "Poetic Justice" (Raging Records, PO Box 632, Bristol, BS99 1VE, ENGLAND): Hardcore music at a thrash pace that results in the vocals being projectile vomited all over the audience; between the speed and the accent it would be hopeless to try understanding without the lyric sheet. Fortunately one is supplied, and it proves that these songs are little blasts of rebellion, raging against media morons and governments and people who don't want a better world. Socially conscious but aurally difficult. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

ROADKILL, "Guitar Vomit" ($4 from Flying Bomb Cassettes, 277 Lake Ave., Worcester, MA 01604): Sampling run amok, this is Matt Towler with the entire natural and artifical world as his sound source. Dogs, people, machines, media, roosters...who knows what all...is put together into rhythmic tracks which have the structure but not the sound of music. A bit offputting to start, but it grows on you after a while. The manic pace throughout helps a lot. (T/MG)

★★★★★

KEN RUBENSTEIN, "More Songs to Alienate Me From the Abhorrent Masses" (45 Belmont Ave., Garfield, NJ 07026): Improvisational music done with a guitar, a Roland synth, and various effects. The title fits this clanking, ear-assaulting medley of music very well; these are about as far from soothing as you can get while still playing reasonably normal instruments. I suspect Ken's music could be used as an anesthetic; it's so distracting you'd never notice a dental drill in your teeth. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE RUDY SCHWARTZ PROJECT, "Plastic Containers Retain Odors" (Joe Newman, 5404 Avenue F, Austin, TX 78751): A wild and hilarious medley of styles, revolving around electronics but funy as hell. They do some country tunes ("Hey Darling, Can I Buy You a Taco?" and "I Got a Sheep Out Back"), some religious music ("The Pastor") and much more, including "Catlitter Polka" and "Dance of the Secular Humanists". There's also a multiple-style version of "Georgy Girl", with every phrase a different genre. (T/MG)

★★★★★

RWA, "Woman" ($4 from Ensemble Vide, BP12, 33031 Bdx, FRANCE): About 20 minutes of rather experimental music, ranging from the aurally assaultive down to the merely repetitive. The overall effect is to leave an air of uncertainty hanging, as if there was another half of the band to follow and fill in the melodies. Rhythmic poundings, synth experiments, and chanted vocals. (T/MG)

★★★★★

TERJE RYPDAL, "The Singles Collection" (ECM Records, 810 Seventh Ave., New York, NY 10019): Rypdal has made his name in jazz, but this is more of a fusion record, allowing him to give play to all manner of rock guitar lines. The pieces are all instrumentals, and many of them have contemplative sections, so it's not a Van Halen-ish experience or anything. But it is something different, a pathway from rock to jazz, and pleasant to listen to. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

SANTO, "Self-Respect" ($8 from Source Unltd Records, 331 E. 9th St., New York, NY 10003): Busking from the streets of New York, folky tunes with a Latin undertow of striking beats. Santo relies mainly on acoustic guitar, his own vocals, and an eye for what's going down. He writes of desperate folks maintaining some self-respect, of others that don't get it together, of the world that makes them that way. Good stuff. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

ANDREW SAVAGE, "Werewolf Poo" (Tapeworm Tapes, 81 Castlerigg Drive, Burnley, Lancs., BB12 8AT, ENGLAND): Sort of minimalistic music with rather annoying arrangements and definitely bizarre lyrics. Andrew tends to seize on a single idea and drive it into the ground by repetition, while the static or drums bang on in the background. Rather closer to poetry than song. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DAVID SCHALL, "More Songs Than Sore Throat" ($2 from PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): You'd think a 102-song tape would be thrash; you'd be wrong. Instead it's three-chord acoustic guitar, with Dave singing little bits of stuff in between the music. Titles include "Bring Back Black Flag:, "I'd Rather Watch TV Than Get a Job" and "How Many People Are On The Guest List?" Moderately amusing, but 102 0-4 line songs gets a bit tedious. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SCORE, "Text/Sound Collaborations" (Crag Hill, 491 Mandana Blvd. #3, Oakland, CA 94610): A mix of experimental audio, at times sounding like poetry, at times like improvisational music, at its best a combination of the two. "Bob Cob Bing", for example, features three voices repeating permutations of those words in an odd harmony, a mantra from the dictionary. "Scoropera" features typical opera singing compressed into a small slice of terrifying overlap. Interesting sketches of new approaches to sound. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SCREAMING TREES, "Buzz Factory" (SST, PO Box 1, Lawndale, CA 90260): I had good things to say about their last record a couple of issues ago and I'm going to say good things again so if repeats bore you, turn the page. Though they keep up the neo-psychedelic guitar noise attack, I still think their best songs are the moody, introspective ones, like the closing cut on side A, "Yard Trip #7", though the joyful, overindulgent guitar climax of "End of the Universe" has a lot going for it to. Hold on to your head with this one. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

SEEMEN, "New Swing Set" (3413 West Ave., Austin, TX 78705): Rather laid-back music made up of a mix of found sounds, ambient noise, tape loops and some instrumental tracks which are mixed in rather than layered on. At any given moment, what comes out of the speakers may sound clashing & strange, but the overall effect is paradoxically soothing. A very human sort of music. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SEMANTICS COULD VANISH, "euy" (Xexoxial Editions, 1341 Williamson, Madison, WI 53703): Audio experioddica with texts from Miekal And's booklet of the same name, which comes included with the tape. There's also plenty of synthetic soundscaping here, along with vocal distortion; the piece slips smoothly from language to music and back again. The liner notes encourage "interactive listening" as this is meant to be a personal performance piece as well. Challenging but not abusive. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SEX GANG CHILDREN, "Ecstasy and Vendetta Over New York" ($8 from ROIR, 611 Broadway #411, New York, NY 10012): Most of the music we get here at FF falls into recognizable categories; these folks defy any such pigeonholing with their refusal to sound like anyone. Indeed, it doesn't always sound like the instruments are playing the same song, and the vocalist isn't too concerned about this. "New Wave" is probably about the best tag for this trendy '83 live performance, and unless you were there, you probably want to give it a miss. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SHELTERED MIRRORS, "Rain" ($4 from David Joo, PO Box 33, Stirling City, CA 95978): Dark and eerie synthesizer work from David Abate. This stuff ranges from percussive nightmares to gothic-sounding spoken works, with a fairly abrasive edge overall. Gets sort of depressing in the middle, but ends on a more drawn-out and haunting note. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SHOCKABILLY, "In Search of Shockabilly" (Watergate Tapes, c/o M. Reams, PO Box 10331, Greensboro, NC 27404): Shockabilly (and Eugene Chadbourne for that matter) were (is) incredible live, seemingly lampooning hits from the past while treating them with enough good humored affection that you wouldn't consider it a personal affront if they butchered your favorite song. Recorded live at various locations in Europe and the United States, this tape captures vintage Shockabilly in 1984. Who else could play music by Prince, Neil Young and the Beatles with rakes, plungers, a very cheap organ, similar percussion and Chadbourne's manic vocals and still make it worth listening to? Nobody but these guys. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

SICK OF IT ALL, "Blood, Sweat and No Tears" (In-Effect, 187-07 Henderson Ave., Hollis, NY 11423): This is some serious kick-ass hard rock music. There are no frills here, no mousse, no attitude, no "look" and no "schtick". Just straightforward hardcore that aims for the gut and sinks a mean punch. As an extra treat, check out KRS-1 of Boogie Down Productions who gives the band's rock some rap in between a song or two. (T/CS)

★★★★★

SINISTER ATTRACTION, "As a Matter of Fact" ($3.50 from Sandy Kane, PO Box 85, Landenberg, PA 19350): A two-man technopop group that gets some really wild sounds out of their assemblage of guitars and electronics. The tape leads off with a strong track, "Up Front", with an eerie cut-up text to set the stage for mass confusion to come. Sampling gets into the act with bits of preaching and news, and the music gradually becomes less constrained. I really enjoyed this; it has an electronic crackle of rambunctious energy to it that works out well. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SIX FEET UNDER, demo tape (Nonoxynol-9, PO Box 7792, Rego Park, NY 11374): A band that seems to have a bit of an identity crisis. The A side is mostly thrash/grunge metallic punk, with strictly lo-fi recording and not

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much to recommend it. They break free of these limits on the reverse, though, moving from ambient to found sounds to some nice synthetic/guitar instrumentals at the end. My advice: ditch the punk, polish the rest. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SKUNK, "Last American Virgin" (Twin\Tone Records, 2541 Nicollet Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55404): Formerly known as Mighty Joe Young, these guys lay down a heap of music that starts as something like hard pop. It devolves, though, as each song and the whole album goes on, and ends up in primal rock. A couple of cuts turn into meandering improv-fests along the way; it's like watching a cute relative have a mental breakdown. Intriguing but a bit diffuse. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

SNFU, "Better Than a Stick in Your Eye" (Cargo Records, 1180 Saint Antoine St. W, Montreal, QC, H3C 1B4, CANADA): Terrific and way cool. The last thing I heard from these boys was "If you Swear, You'll Catch no Fish", but this album makes me want to go out and check out all their other vinyl and add it to my swollen, promo-laden milk crates. Chi Pig's voice is pleasing and free of any whining that oh so often blows otherwise good punk rock. (It's got that game-show announcer edge to it). The music is basically straight-ahead punk. Their version of "Wild World" is absolutely indispensable for your back-to-school comp tapes. Well recommended. (LP/AG)

★★★★★

SOCKEYE, "A Bunch of Straightedge Fucks Tried to Ruin Our Fun — But Failed" ($3 from Dave, PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): The A side of this tape is a live recording of a disastrous show when the band was heckled off the stage, but not before playing such gems as "Vegetarians Are Wimps" and "Straightedge Fag". The flipside is a live radio interview including an acoustic version of "Blind" one of their musically better but more offensive songs. An interesting cultural document, complete with a booklet on the band and their current problems in getting their record pressed. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SOMEWHERE IN EUROPE, "Dark Days" (£2 from 55 Perowne Street, Aldershot, Hampshire, GU11 3JR, ENGLAND): A tape of sonic experiments involving a variety of found sound and synthetic noises. Vocals include everything from kid's chants to bits of other songs. There's a sort of foreboding atmosphere here, as if a wave of white noise was about to crash over the listener at any moment, but that wave never quite breaks. Quite a blend of noise. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SOULSIDE, "Bass" b/w "103" and "Otherside" ($3 from Dischord Records, 3819 Beecher St. NW, Washington, DC 20007): A pretty good introduction to one face of the "DC sound", the tension-filled rock of Soulside. They're a very *sincere* band, and their calls to action don't seem mere posturing. Nor do they pull any punches, musical or otherwise: "So rise people rise/rise and revolt/burn the eyes of the rulers" runs one lyrical bit. (45/MG)

★★★★★

SOYLENT GREEN, "Processed Humanity" (Channel 83, PO Box 7303, Minneapolis, MN 55407): Speed metal with an unrelenting lyrical message about a world going to hell, leaving us stuck with our fate as we destroy the earth. They get this across half a dozen ways, but it comes out not so much as resistance but as resignation. Music for the apocalypse. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

SPIKE, "Alive and Ticking" ($5.50 from The Furnace Room, 10556 Lincoln St., East Canton, OH 44730): Melodic and at times deeply affecting pop music from a rather enigmatic performer (no photos, no interviews, no bio). This is music with a social twist; Spike sings against cocaine use and abortion and nukes, for example. Gentle ballads performed with quiet intensity. (T/MG)

★★★★★

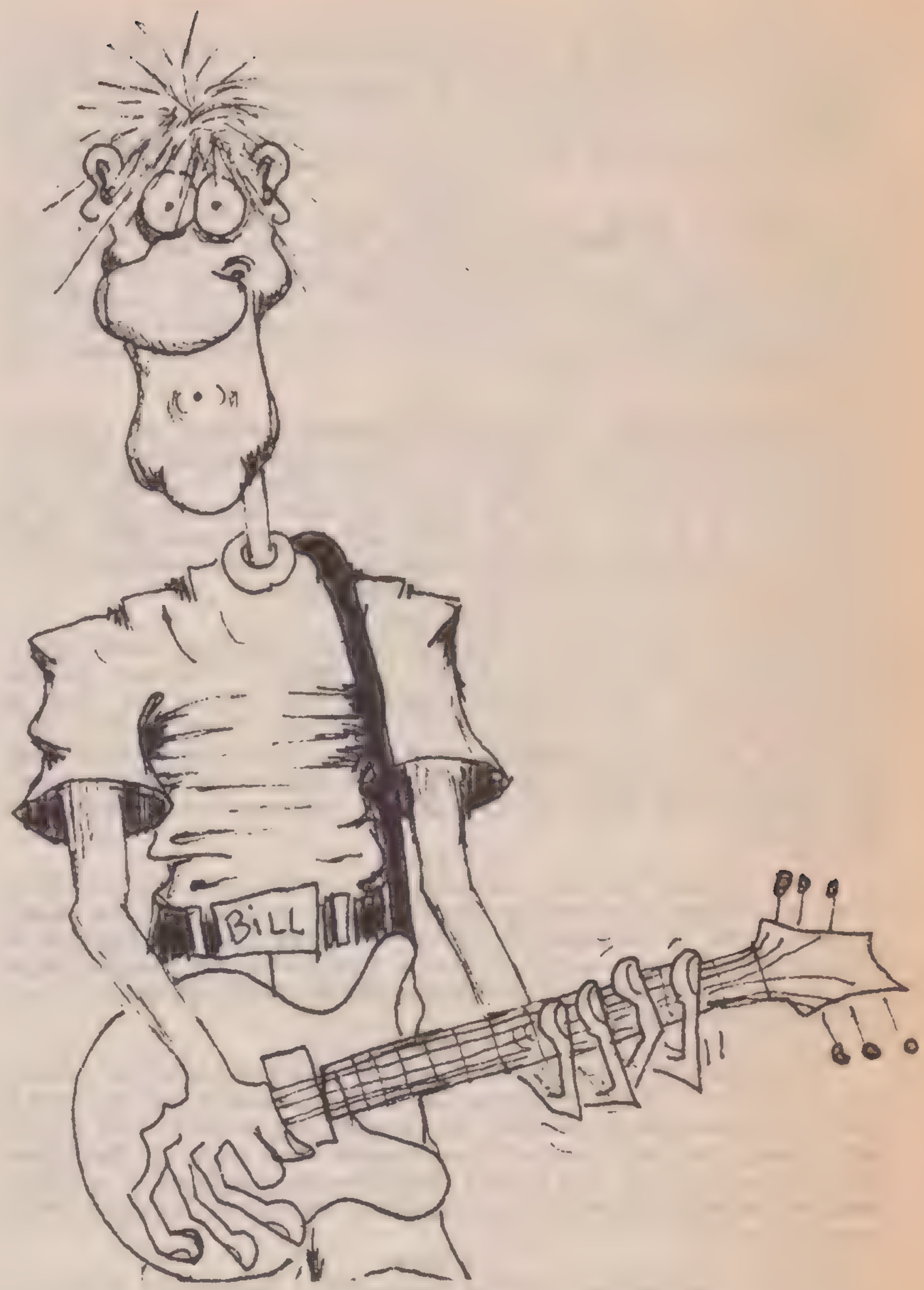
STARS AND STRIPES, "Shaved for Battle" ($7 from Patriot Records, 19 Center St., Provincetown, MA 02657): American oi music from a band that's skinhead and damned proud of it. The lyrics almost sound like self-parody but I doubt that they are; they seem entirely too serious about things. An ode to the wonders of being in a tight and tough little patriotic gang. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

STEEL POLE BATH TUB, "Butterfly Love" ($7 from Boner Records, PO Box 2081, Berkeley, CA 94702): Deafening Noise. Pain. Satori. That about sums up the experience of listening to this album, which despite the title and the pic of Marsha Brady on the cover is one of the most overwhelming aural onslaughts of recent memory. A primal experience of crashing guitars, overamped vocals, and general clamor. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

PETER STENSHOEL, "Low-Flying Collage, Volume 1: Downtime" ($7 from Numazu, PO Box 19427, Minneapolis, MN 55419): Turn up your subwoofer as it will get a workout from this cassette. Out of an hour and a half of music spread out over two compositions, there is basically only a half an hour worth of music. "Downtime" holds my interest for only about the first ten minutes or so before it drifts off as aimless background music. Through audio collage, "Nowheresville" captures the confusion of a party atmosphere, Japanese broadcasts and other random media messages and sets it to an undulating bass rhythm that I find much more satisfying. (T/KJ)



★★★★★

STOCKYARD, self-titled ($7 from Frank Brodlo, Stockyard Records, 2726 N. St. Louis Ave., Chicago, IL 60647): Rock with a variety of reference points: sometimes tinged with country, sometimes roots rock, sometimes self-indulgent metal guitar licks, sometimes the sort of growled energy of the early 70s. Overall it maintains a crisp edge and a lyrical intensity that pull the band through all the changes and give it a cohesive feel. Like a breath of cold wind on a hot day. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE STOMPING YOBBOS, "In a Red Sea" ($3 from George Kurchalla, 231 S. 45th St. #1, Philadelphia, PA 19104): A puzzling release, teetering on the edge between punk and more traditional rock. There's a certain vocal abandon that would put it firmly in the punk camp, were it not for the assaultive and unpolished music. But it all works together, so it's definitely planning rather than incompetence that makes it sound this way. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ZEBRA STRIPES, "Zebra is Her Name" (Dionysus Records, PO Box 1975, Burbank, CA 91507): Zebra is a young lady with a voice vaguely reminiscent of Little Nell's in ROCKY HORROR. Here she sings ten cover tunes from the fifties to the seventies, backed up by a variety of reasonably prominent independent musicians. After a while the concept wears pretty thin, though, and by the end of the record I no longer wanted to hear those clever little vocal catches. Sort of like Wonder Bread, puffed up to unnatural dimensions and a disappointment in the end. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

JON STRONGBOW, "Something Different" ($7.99 from Green Monkey Records, PO Box 31983, Seattle, WA 98109): Strong-pulsed Northwest pop/rock anchored by plenty of Jon's guitar as well as his and the backup gang's vocals. Listening to this is nearly embarrassing, as the emphasis is on Jon's search for the truth, or at least love and understanding, in the world, and he doesn't care who knows it. But there's enough infectious upbeat spirit to make it all fun too, and by the end of the record nearly anyone will be tapping feet and nodding along with the beat. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

STUFF THAT MATTERS, self-titled (E Records, PO Box 2046, Venice, CA 90294-2046): A tape of simple guitar rock from Alex Guiness, recorded a decade ago but only now released. The songs here seem to attack 70s-style apathy; it's sort of sad that they fit as well at the end of the 80s. There's hope as well, on tunes like "Something to Believe In". Throughout the emotions are carried forward by the tight playing and sincere vocals. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SUCKDOG, "Drugs Are Nice" ($8 from Lisa Carver, PO Box 1491, Dover, NH 93820): More noise from Lisa Suckdog, Helen Suckpuppy, and assorted friends — this time on vinyl. Surprisingly, they sound better this way, despite purveying the usual mix of howling, screaming, ad hoc recordings, bad jokes, obscene noises, and general craziness. Features a semi-explicit photo of Lisa and Helen on the front, just in case the sounds don't sell enough copies. Bizarre anti-music. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

SURROGATE BRAINS, "Surrogate Serenades" ($3 from Lookout! Records, PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): Clever-sounding music that's based in punk but influenced by everything from polka to Oi! They take slaps at Skrewdriver and other Nazis, at straightedge, and at the American dream in general (this last accompanied by some wicked electric guitar). 6 songs, not bad. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

S.V.O.E., "Brazil" (PO Box 331, Morris, CT 06763): The initials stand for "Shrieking Void of Emptiness", though they don't much use the full name. They produce a pretty straightforward punk, free of any hint of metal. Their lyrics are of depression, wasted nights, insomnia, and other cheery things, with a hard core of rebellion and determination hidden underneath. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

MATTHEW SWEET, "Earth" (A&M, 595 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10022): Warm friendly pop with a contemporary touch and a light alternative edge. A little Steve Winwood, a little Paul McCartney, a little Don Dixon...the vocals thin out sometimes to where they don't really carry their weight, but the earnest accessibility of the music more than compensates for that. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

A. C. Swinburne, **SWINBURNE '77 AUDIO** (The Neopantheist Society, BCM/OPAL, London, England WC1N 3XX): Two cassettes of Swinburne's poetry, read with perfection by Zachary Cox. A clear voice from a strand of the traditional English poetic form, complete with flawless rhyme and meter. Subdued and deliberate, relentless with its spiritualism and classical with its delivery, this has a circumscribed audience. But for those of us who still can enjoy such poetry, this is a sure thing. (T/pj)

★★★★★

ELI TALGAM, "I Also Love Silence" (Neve Yaakov, 421/15, PO Box 27446, Jerusalem, ISRAEL): Electro-synthesized media mix'n'match with a middle eastern twist that is universal in its approach and appeal. It could come from almost anywhere that is urban, paranoid, progressive and creative. Some of it is particularly biting and noteworthy, such as the use of an introduction for Ghaddafi to a large crowd which is mixed into a rap/funk/scratch sequence. (T/CS)

★★★★★

TEEN LESBIANS AND ANDROIDS and **KUSTOM KAR KOMMANDOS**, "Live" (Ecto Tapes, 5912 NW 62 Terr., Oklahoma City, OK 73122): TL&A gets off to a slow start with various bashings and tape loops, and never does build up much of a head of steam. KKK is better, playing sloppy rock covers with new words, like "Godzilla" transformed into "Fat Women". Still not a lot of substance on tape, maybe they're better in person. (T/MG)

★★★★★

TEEN LESBIANS & ANIMALS, "Live" (Ecto Tapes, 5912 NW 62 Terr., Oklahoma City, OK 73122): I feel like I've fallen backwards through the mirror into a cross-cultural sample of radio and television: you know in TV where the voice is up front and the soundtrack is behind it? This is the reverse and in snippets scattered throughout the tape. It's music, sound, voice all piecemeal and mixed up. (T/CS)

★★★★★

TEN CITY, "Foundation" (Atlantic, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019): Take 70's disco dance music, add a dash of 80's aggressiveness and street-savvy, and you've got Ten City. I wasn't crazy about the falsetto vocals, which got on my nerves after a while, but the background vocal harmonies, the smooth groove and the good music more than compensated for them. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

THELONIUS MONSTER, "Stormy Weather" (Relativity, 187-07 Henderson Ave., Hollis, NY 11423): Well, it ain't Lena Horne who's wailing on this release...but there is wailing to be found, driven by fun-spirited bursts of energy for the '80s. What's here is basically college guitar rock and roll but more forceful, more progressive and more aggressive than much of what's been offered in this vein lately. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

THROWING MUSES, "Hunkpapa" (Sire Records, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019): Throwing Muses continues to inch towards a synthesis of college radio pop and their own peculiar brand of buzzsaw music. Here the mild stuff is on side A, perhaps to lull DJs into playing side B — where they cut loose, all quirky rhythms and screaming Kristin Hersh vocals. The lyrics continue to be obscure all over, and the energy is undeniable. "I'm Alive", a song of bruised determination, is my favorite here, but the whole album has been spending a lot of time on the turntable. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

TOO MUCH JOY, "Son of Sam I Am" (Alias Records, 374 Brannan St., San Francisco, CA 94107): Nice harmonies, straightforward melodies, these guys wield their guitars with a mighty edge. This is rocknroll for young of heart and light of spirit but energetic of mind and body. Engaging and accessible with lots of memorable hooks and a noticeable sense of humor that pervades on every riff. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

TOTENTANZ, self-titled (Bill Lengeman, 193 S. Railroad St., Hummelstown, PA 17036): Music to slit your wrists by. This bass-heavy quartet blasts out a minor-key sludge of sound with growly shouted vocals and lyrics to make you shudder. Rape, napalm, torture, suicide, visions, nightmares and dreams all wrapped up in 22 polished songs. (T/MG)

★★★★★

TREAT HER RIGHT, "Tied to the Tracks" (RCA Records, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): A charming bluesy album fueled by wailing harmonica and a low-down country guitar sound. I'm especially taken by the opening "Junkyard", with its collector's-dream lyric "I've got one of every single man-made thing/in my junkyard". That sort of silliness is rampant throughout, but it seems to make a sort of mystic sense when mixed with their swamp music. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE TRILOBITES, "I Can't Wait For Summer to End" (rooArt, c/o A&R Consultants, 219 S. Main, Ann Arbor, MI 48104): Throwback sixties power-music, heavy on guitar assaults and sardonic lyrics. They don't like summer, or indeed much of anything else; "Who'll be first against the wall/when the revolution comes..." goes one of the lyrics from "Critical Mass". Dense and exciting music. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

TRIPTIC OF A PASTEL FERN, "2nd Jefferson Blythe" ($5 from Eternal Equinox, 2515 N. 16th St., Arlington, VA 22201): Mostly-electronic music that flows smoothly from one cut into the next. There are very few vocals, and those often of a sonorous, chanting variety. Instead you get a music that starts off with acid-buzz static and then mutates again and again, never holding in one place too long, and always popping up from the background. A nice tape to work to. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MAUREEN TUCKER, "Life in Exile After Abdication" (50 Zillion Watts Records, 5721 SE Laguna Ave., Stuart, FL 34997): Maureen used to drum for the Velvet Underground. Now she's back with her own album and a host of collaborators including Lou Reed, most of Sonic Youth, Jad Fair, and Daniel Johnston. The songs here are sort of light but crisp rock, plenty of guitars and great vocals. Best bet is the two anti-work songs, which bring a sense of sheer funloving rebellion to the whole. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

TUPELO CHAIN SEX, "4!" (Cargo Records, 1180 Saint-Antoine St. W., Montreal, Que. H3C 1B4 CANADA): Ska is perhaps the closest musical reference for this crazy stuff, but jazz or rockabilly could equally claim TPS as their own. The music bounces around in a welter of sax playing and Cockney singing, the lyrics explore love and lust and chili dogs, and the band seems to be having an obscenely good time. True originals. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

TWIN HYPE, self-titled (Profile Records, 740 Broadway, New York, NY 10009): Hip-hop music with a heavy techno component: scratches, echoing, pounding perfect electronic beats. The voices are done by a pair of twin brothers, Sly and Slick, and while the interweaving effect stands up for a few songs it ultimately wears. Their unrelenting self-puffery doesn't make the listening experience any easier. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

TWO NICE GIRLS, "2 Nice Girls" (Rough Trade, 611 Broadway #536, New York, NY 10012): The Roches meet Michelle Shocked down south at a hoedown hosted by Tammy Wynnette and Lorettta Lynn in honor of Dolly

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Parton — then they all come to New York to jam with Lou Reed. Weird? Absolutely. Also arresting, spunky, and 100% attention-grabbing. (LP/CS)

☆☆☆☆☆

U.D.O., "Mean Machine" (RCA Records, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): This heavy metal slammer features Udo Dirkschneider (ex-Accept) and a group of youngsters he's recruited to play loud and dirty. Though they're all German, the lyrics are in English, and the closest musical referent is AC/DC. Titles range from standard fare like "Break the Rules" to the relatively tender "Still in Love With You." (LP/MG)

★★★★★

ULTRA VIVID SCENE, "Mercy Seat" (4AD US, 611 Broadway #536, New York, NY 10012): A quintessentially 4AD release: droning, textured synthesized music that would be more danceable if it were less fascinating. This stuff is real great for late nights when you don't really want to be jerked around by music. Instead UVS envelope you in their sound, making the only bad moment the one when the tone arm lifts off. (EP/MG)

☆☆☆☆☆

URGE OVERKILL, "Jesus Urge Superstar" (Touch & Go, PO Box 25520, Chicago, IL 60625): Brash, noisy, ragged, jangly, swinging, fist-thrusting, heavy melody, hard rhythm. Yes, you'll want to call this industrial (isn't that what everyone does to music of this kind, especially when it comes out of Chicago?) but really, why bother? It's not really industrial, or punk, or noise, or rock, or...well, you get my drift. It's "E" — all of the above. And then some. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "AHHH..." (Bad Compilation Tapes, PO Box 16205, San Diego, CA 92116): This tape features rather better sound quality and fewer groups than their other Italian punk compilations, without sacrificing the hardcore spirit and feel. Good performances come from Cheetah Chrome Motherfuckers, Eu's Arse, and Chelsea Hotel, while 5 other groups fill in the gaps. A reasonable place to start delving into foreign punk history. (T/MG)

☆☆☆☆☆

Various Artists, "Bored Child With Rock" ($6 from Bored Records, 1908 Salem, Lafayette, IN 47904): A compilation of thirteen unsigned Midwest bands. If there's a regional sound here, it's a sort of pop/rock, as exemplified by the arresting "Funny Little Valentine" from Bliss. Folks do range far afield though, out to the punk noise of The Spastic Rats or the pop noodling of Station Wagon. Comes with a full lyric sheet — quite a bargain all told. (T/MG)

☆☆☆☆☆

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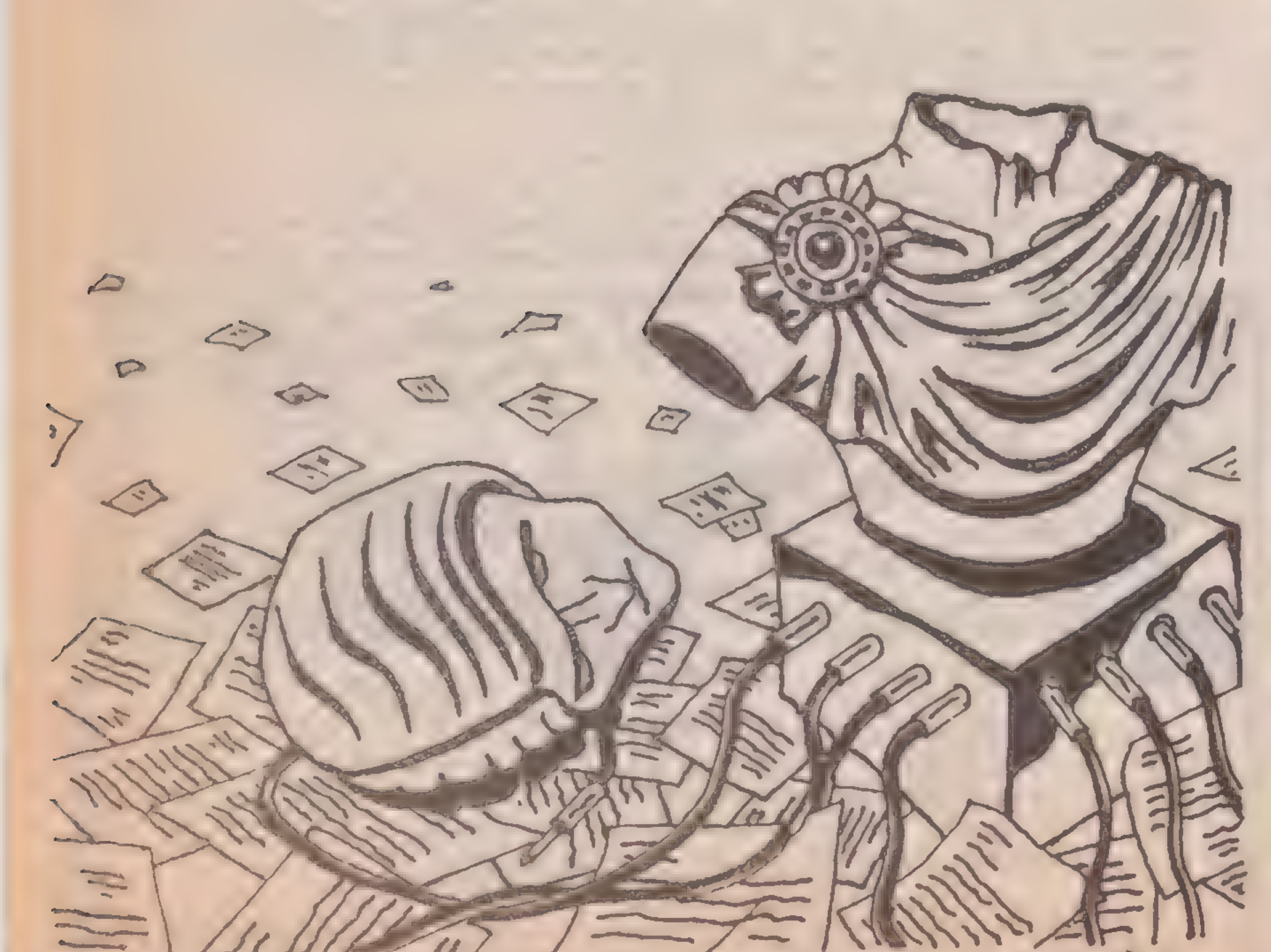


SEND FOR COMPILATION TAPE AND CATALOG.

Various Artists, "Building Higher Nests" (Minnesota Composers Forum, Markethouse #206, 289 E. Fifth St., St. Paul, MN 55101): Anyone who is not familiar with the Minnesota Composers Forum should be. They have consistently released recordings of the highest quality that spotlight composers who, for the most part, live or work in Minnesota. This release features a fine collection of relatively unknown "new" classical composers such as Michelle Kinney, James R. Price, Thomas J. Wegren, Jim Phillips, and Michael Kosch with appearances by such well known avant-gardists as Tom Cora and Marc Anderson. Ample liner notes add to the listening pleasure. A definite gem waiting to be discovered. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "The Call of Madonna Luisa Ciccone" (14DM from Artware, Uwe Hamm-Furholter, Taunusstrasse 38, 8200 Wiesbaden, WEST GERMANY): Close to twenty experimental musicians and artists take on Madonna and reduce her work to a quivering mass of sonic snippets. Tape-looped, cut-up, voiced-over, distorted and otherwise attacked, the material girl comes off as raw material for some of the grungiest art music I've heard recently. Ah, the price of fame! Comes with a 16-page minibooklet of maila art. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Cassette Fest: 1988" ($2 from WCSB, RT 956, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH 44115): The folks at WCSB listened to 400 tapes last year, and came up with this selection of Cleveland's indies. It's a pretty fine group, sort of heavy on experimental instrumentals, but including the rock of Sockeye and the unclassifiable weirdness of Plastic Eye Miracle's "Pow! Out Go The Lights!" as well. Cleveland is definitely not a dead town for music. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Chicago Poets" ($4 from Randy Lancelot, Zadruc Tapes, PO Box 3592, Oak Park, IL 60302): If you haven't heard, the NYC Dept of Desecration is fining Bob Z $3100 for sanitizing the city. To help Bob pay these unexpected bills, a group of Chicago poets produced this benefit tape. As for the contents, punkture of course; such as Bruce Neal's "she was always all smiles and destruction." Then there's Nicole Gipson's "The Thunder's Not my Fault." Generally non-traditional. Usually rough at the edges. Thoroughly enjoyable. (T/pj)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Collect and Collide" (Small Tools Tradition, PO Box 8005 Suite 239, Boulder, CO 80306-8005): Sort of like getting two electronic compilation tapes in one. The A side is light, pop-oriented, clever little synthesizer gems that get you nodding pleasantly. This makes the B side, featuring fearsome sonic assaults, all the more effective. Groups here include Icep;annts, Little Fyodor, and Naram Sin, as well as a number of Europeans. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "A Complete Turnaround" ($4 from Stan Smith, Bug Scratch Taps, 49 Muirfield, Abilene, TX 79605): A well-assembled compilation tape featuring 17 groups with 2 songs each: 34 cuts in all during these 90 minutes. Most of the stuff here is somewhere on the rock-to-hardcore axis. Among the groups included are Buckle Mutants, Acid Bath, Sockeye, Roadkill and Jawbreaker, plus a great many more I've never heard of. A lot of new samples for the money. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Due Process" (RRRecords, 151 Paige St., Lowell, MA 01852): A soundtrack to tides of life's comings and goings. The thrust is industrial, electronic, sound-track oriented music with some other influences incorporated into it. After a while it all began to blur into one long release that seemed to be tireless, timeless, and endless. (T/CS)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Everyday Is a Holly Day" (Emergo Records, 225 Lafayette St. #709, New York, NY 10012): A collection of 17 covers of Buddy Holly songs, issued for the 30th anniversary of his death. Put together in France by New Rose Records, it features an international cast including Tav Falco's Panther Burns, LMNOP, Lolitas, Classic Ruins, and many more. Most of these are fairly straight tributes, modernized a bit but not beat to death with electric guitars or anything. A very enjoyable batch of music. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Folk Songs of Middle America" ($4 from PO Box 472084, Tulsa, OK 74147): Seven bands from Oklahoma. The recording quality varies; John Hancock's spoken word in particular is almost unlistenable. On the other hand, George Usdin's silly pop/folk songs (including "My Second Favorite Cardinals Been Traded", a baseball ditty, and "Kinky Sex") show real promise, and the noise assault of Van Gogh's Ear can hold its own with the most strident guitars around. Others here include Illegitimate Sons of Jackie O., War Hippies, Toxic Pussy and Conniption Fits. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Free For All" (Hawker Records, 225 Laffayette St. #709, New York, NY 10012): Some of the best hardcore I've heard in a long time (never mind that some of you think that's a contradiction in terms). This was recorded live at CBGB's in April, and features 3 songs each from 4 prime bands: Wrecking Crew, Rest In Pieces, Token Entry and No For An Answer. The recording is almost too good to be live, the songs shred, the energy level is high, and the sets are the right length. An adrenalin-pumper. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Hardcore Slimewars" ($5 from Bob Z. c/o Sarris Bookmarketing, 125 E. 23rd St. #300, new York, NY 10010): The first in the new "IQ" (for "Improved Quality") series of BAD NEWZ cassettezines, with part of the money going to fight the NY Sanitation Police and their insane anti-postering campaign. Highlights here include Professor Louie's anarcho-rap "Stealing", the loud noises from Screeching Weasel and 3-Legged Dog, and the blasphemous rant of Victor Poison-Tete. The opposition rises again! (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Hotel Cleveland" (Scat Records, PO Box 141161, Cleveland, OH 44114): A collection of three tracks each from four relatively new Cleveland bands: Prisonshake, Starvation Army (well, actually they've been around for 6 or 7 years now), Crash (a band formed just for this record) and Ghost Sonata. It's all somewhat punk-sounding rock, a bit sloppy, energetic, and fun. Out of the garages and onto vinyl. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Hypertonia Sampler" ($5.50 from Jan R. Bruun, Hieryggen 2, N-8614 Ytteren, NORWAY): Selections from 14 artists on this underground cassette label. Offerings range from experimental spoken word stuff to rock, with pop and garage-type music being perhaps the greatest part of what's here. Artists excerpted include X-Ray Pop, Das Freie Orchester, Cleaners from Venus, Brotherhood of Lizards, and Areknuteknyterne. If the rest of their tapes are like this then we've found another cool label. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Insomnia, Vol. 2" ($15 Postal MO from Paul Dickerson, PO Box 92, Denver, CO 80201): A numbered edition of 1000 presented in a hardshell plastic case with insert cards printed by the letterpress from Independent Projects. 4 artists get half an hour each: Matt Heckert (with a selection of Survival Research Laboratories recordings), Greater Than One, Hunting Lodge, and Human Head Transplants. Selections range from industrial to moody and slow, with very few vocals and a general sense of vast sonic space being explored. A nice little collectors' item. (T2/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Intimacies — Austin Poets Audio Anthology Project, Volume 1" (Perfection Productions, PO Box 3478, Austin, TX 78764): As the name suggests, this is a compilation of up front and personal poems from artists in the Austin area. The tape is well produced, but unpolished enough for it to exude the warmth of a small, public reading. Musical instruments often accompany the pieces, perhaps most effectively on Hedwig Gorski's three pieces where she plays off the rhythm and tempo of the East of Eden band. I also enjoyed Eleanor Crockett's effective narrative style and Albert Huffstickler's paradoxical "Why I'm Not Going to Write About the Rain Anymore." (T/KJ)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Laughingstock" ($6.50 from Widemouth Tapes, PO Box 382 CR, Baltimore, MD 21203): All manner of strange experimental stuff here. It starts off with Chuck Stephens' "Irving Dervish": Disney cartoon music done by malevolent child-hating dwarves on crack. Later on we get 2 minuts of Janor Hypercleats rants, a clarinet version of the Woody Woodpecker theme from Kevin Whitehead, and a multiple voice spoken piece called "Three Voice Ventriloquism" — and that's less than half the tracks here. A sideways slice through experimental cassette culture. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Lyrics By Ernest Noyes Brookings" (Shimmy-Disc, JAF Box 1187, New York, NY 10116): Many of you will know Brookings's idiosyncratic poems from their appearances in THE DUPLEX PLANET. Now you can hear 21 of them set to music by a diverse bunch of artists: Eugene Chadbourne, Mr. Curt, Men & Volts, Erik Lindgren, Kram,er, Jad Fair, and more. Most of the music is sort of light rock, though different folks roam around to harder or more countrified genres. Includes lyric sheet with credits. A neat project. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

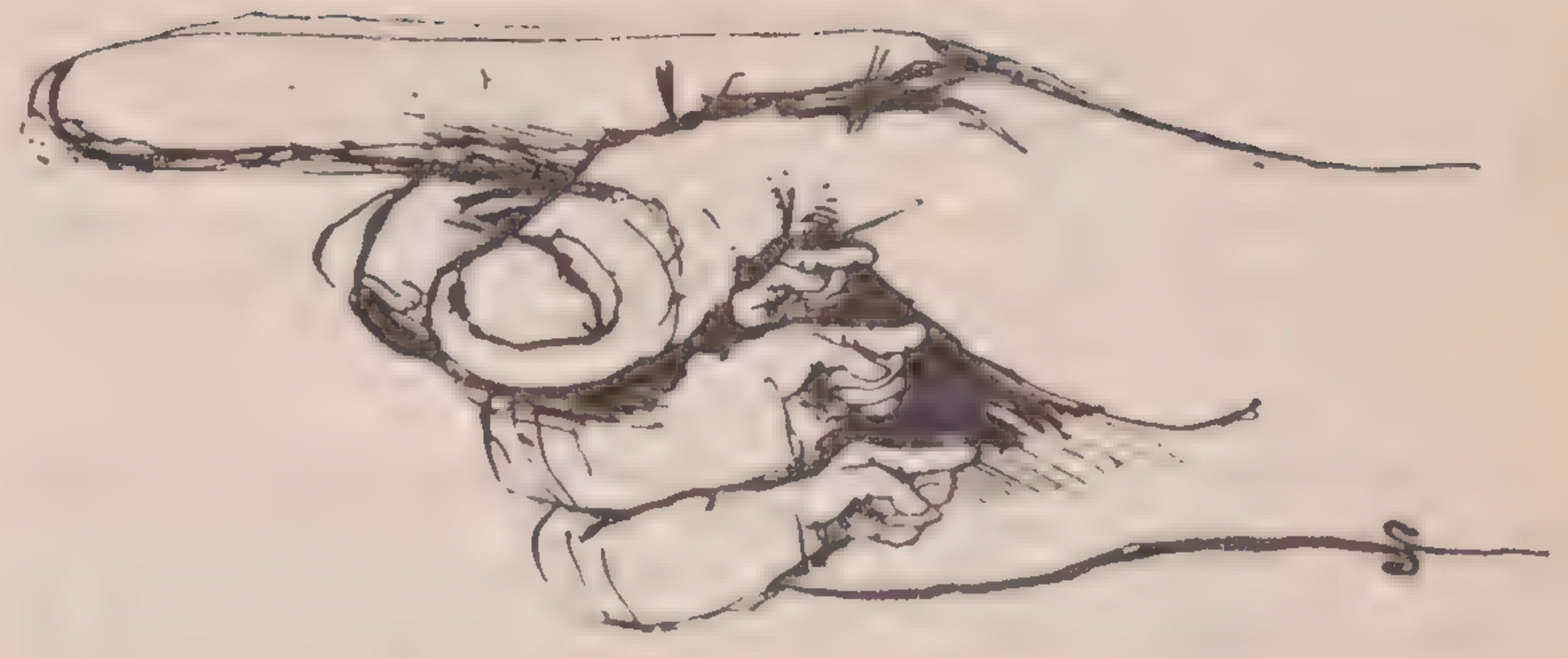
Various Artists, "Mentally Broken Vol. 1" ($3 from Akiko, 396 Seventh St. #2, Jersey City, NJ 07302): Akiko is handling the US distribution for this hardcore compilation from France. 13 bands, 38 songs, including Crucial Youth and Psycho Sin from the US, Finland's Sabotaasi, Deathnoise and Eat Yourself from France, and bands from Canada, Italy, and the UK. It's all loud, mostly in English, and with the same energy as the BCT hardcore comp tapes. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Mouth of the Mississippi Chapter 2" ($8 from Michael Jackson, Xkurzhen Sound, State House PO Box 207, Boston, MA 02133): Another collection of underground electronic tracks from Harsh Reality, XKurzhen, and Mystery Hearsay artists. The Viktimized Karcass and Swine is Mental tracks here seem more accessible than usual, more textured than abrasive. The live selection from Corn For Texture is also well-done, improvisational without bogging down. A reasonably mellow intro to the genre. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Only 39,999,999 Behind *Thriller*" (Restless Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): A medley of guitar rock from Down There records, the label that broke such groups as Dream Syndicate and Green on Red. This record includes rare cuts from both those bands, as well as work from Doctor's Children, Naked Prey (a hot rendition of "The Story Never Ends"), Russ Tolman, Divine Weeks, and others. A handy item for those too lazy to be collectors. (LP/MG)



★★★★★

Various Artists, "Poison Plant Music Electronic 1989" (7 Woodsend Pl., Rockville, MD 20854): A carefully-moving and mostly majestic selection of tunes, though Dan Joseph closes it out on a more relaxed note. Triptic of a Pastel Fern leads off with four cuts which have a vast energy and imposing structure to them, followed by Todd Fletcher, Rob Lippert, George Fox and Jack Hurwitz. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Refried Dreams" ($5 from Darrell Draeger, PO Box 1425, Bakersfield, CA 93302): A 19-group compilation with a good variety of music: pop from Sosumi, boogii-woogie by Heinz Kuppers, pretty good rock from John Trubee & the Ugly Janitors of America, experimentalism from Mark Hanley, an All Perry instrumental, and much more. Nothing on this tape stinks, which is a great thing that I wish I could say more often. Good solid new music that comes with contact addresses for the artists. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Return of the Beat Menace" (£4.99 IMO/Eurocheque from Cheep Records and Tapes, 65A Salisbury Road, Wavertree, Liverpool, L15 1HW, UK): A delightful collection of mild and mellow rock and pop. The five artists here were selected because they provide a quality alternative, from the afro-pop of Ben Okafur to the wistful sounds of The Free Zone to the very danceable jazz/pop manufactured by Big Sur. Also included are cuts from GoGo Street and the Revolutionary Army of the Infant Jesus. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Songs I Like to Sing" ($5 from RRRecords, 151 Paige, Lowell, MA 01852): A collection of cover tunes by various undergroundders. Sometimes they're changed so much as to be new songs, as with Randy Greif's ominous version of "Politician". Sometimes new and satirical words are added — check out Culturecide's "Industrial Band". Sometimes they're just strange, as with Amor Fati's cover of "Modern Love" or Shut Up's "Hey Joe". Other bands featured include Wigglepig, Doc Wor Mirran, and Psyclones. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "State of the Union" ($6 from Dischord, 3819 Beecher St. NW, Washington, DC 20007): The line-up is a stellar who's who in the DC-region hardcore scene: Scream, Marginal Man, Fugazi, Ignition, Soulside and Kingface to name but a few. You never heard so many variations on the hardcore theme, each of them distinctive in their own way. Equally as important as the music is the message, a deeply rooted one of conviction which looks at the state of the union as these bands see it, tackling issues such as homelessness and injustice. The accompanying booklet is informative and thoughtful. Take the time to check this out. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Strings" (Turn of the Century Records, 37 May St., New Britain, CT 06052): The second in the "Raw Milk" series of Connecticut rock compilation albums. There's a lot of pleasant music on this disc, with tracks from Leigh Gregory (x-Dispossessed) and Those Melvins standing out. The sound tends towards guitars and vocals, not abrasive stuff, but with a hard edge of control underneath. Worth checking out. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "They Decide...You Pay!" (Bad Compilation Tapes, PO Box 16205, San Diego, CA 92116): One of the best in BCT's series of Italian hardcore compilations. There's nbot a lot of big names here (although CCM do put in an appearance), but there is a nice selection of grueling music and a full yric sheet. Many of the songs are in English (at least of sorts) for further revolutionary enjoyment. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Turn of the Grindstone" ($7 from Gelatinous Records, PO Box 10023, Arlington, VA 22210): The third in a series of "Grindstone" compilations. The series has been and continues to be a mixed bag of electronic compositions. Parade of Sinners and Compound weigh in with interesting, upbeat cuts on side 1. Side 2 leans toward the more experimental vein with more disappointing results. Perhaps the next "Grindstone" should be a "Best of the Grindstone". (LP/KJ)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Underwater Head/Tunnel" (DU Records, 7647 S. Pierce Way, Littleton, CO 80123): Music totally out of control, weird clashes and bashes and loops and screams. The A side, "Underwater Head", is a collaboration between Black Cab-Age and Geometric Head Coalition; "Tunnel" is by XTSW. Both have multiple songs within them, but it hardly seems to matter, as the madness flows from track to track building on itself until it seems as if the speakers will soon erupt in a spray of wires and springs. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists "Veils of Negative Existence" (Greg Chapman, Box 2061, Stockton State College, Pomona, NJ 08240): Great bunch of songs, King Carcass' "Sink and Desist" sounds a wee bit like Jimmy Hendrix with a thin white voice. Graveyard's "Face of God" features Howard Beale and his reverential quote, and Dog of Mystery's "Diesel Bong" is a great industrial crackly cut. (T/CR)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "You Fat Git" (Tapeworm Tapes, 81 Castlerigg Dr., Burnley, Lancashire, BB12 8AT, ENGLAND): Sort of a punk-pop-disco-poetry compilation, high on humor and occasionally low on musical talent. The first track captures some of the spirit, a comedy skit by The Tadpoles over Ravel's "Bolero". Later on we get someone known simply as "Fred" singing about being stuck in the "Middle of the Pacific", some quirky tracks from the Peace & Freedom Band, and Andrew Savage's "The Joys of Driving a Bus". Unique stuff. (T/MG)

★★★★★

VIBRATING EGG, "Come On In Here If You Want To" (Dog Gone Records, PO Box 864, Burlington, NC 27216): This release just flew by on the turntable. Southern rock (Skynnyrd, The Band) meets college edge guitar pop in a zany atmosphere of art and energy. Look for lots of little subtleties as you listen that really set this band apart. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

THE VILE CHERUBS, "Post-Humorous Relief" ($6 from Dischord, 3819 Beecher St. NW, Washington, DC 20007): Sort of psychedelic metal harcore noise music. Sort of. These guys were more interested in cranking out some tunes than in fitting any particular genre, and it shows. The farfisa tracks bring back the feel of Question Mark and the Mysterians — there's the same Tex-Mex looseness even though this isn't south of the border music. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

VIV AKAULDREN, "Magnolia" b/w "Channel Lore" (Akashic Records, PO Box 23265, Detroit, MI 48223): Somewhat dark and ominous layered new wave-ish rock that goes well with the later hours of the evening. Lots of string & synthesizer sound here and somewhat morbid lyrics, especially on the B side: "You don't understand these words/and your laughter is my curse", the singer laments while telling us of killing people. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

VOLKSWHALE, self-titled ($2 from PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): This might be classed as pop, if pop were played by people with their appendages stuck in electric outlets and their brains stirred up by an eggbeater. A mixed noise and tune attack, lots of electronics, silly vocals in classical rhythms, and a bit of found sound combines for an innovative if self-indulgent and unpolished tape. (T/MG)

★★★★★

VOODOO MUZAK, self-titled ($4 from Ensemble Vide, BP12, 33031 Bdx, FRANCE): Heavily repetitive music that burns into your brain like a dentist's drill drone-dirge. The vocals are keyed up and anxious, spouting out of the singer's mouth as if propelled by some unseen force. A profoundly disquieting release, leaving the back of my neck tense and worried. (45/MG)

★★★★★

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THE WAILERS BAND, "I.D." (Atlantic Records, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019): Reggae music from a reconstituted version of Bob Marley's old backup band. Most of this stuff is very relaxed and unobtrusive, almost lacking in spark, as if they want to move cautiously on their own. But it's still pleasant and gentle music, and there's nothing wrong with that. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

LOUDON WAINWRIGHT III "Therapy" (Silvertone c/o RCA, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): More fine and humorous folk rock from the man who's probably best known for "Dead Skunk in the Middle of the Road". This time he lectures youth who can't understand songs without videos, looks into his own bad habits, and berates the weather in London. Poignant and silly in turn, a record well worth a spin. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE WANKERS "Body Commodity + Live 1/10/88" (Commodity, PO Box 15, Altadena, CA 91003): Moody, dirgey stuff with a choppy, grinding guitar filling things out. There are both studio and live versions of "Body Commodity" here, the live version being mixed with the drums drowning everything out. Gothickey and very depressed. (T/CR)

★★★★★

WAX COLONALS, "Talkin Shit: A Spoken Word Tape" (Cellar Productions, 11 Werner Rd., Greenville, PA 16125): Stream of reality channel-switching through the CB of life, Initially I was attracted to what was being attempted here, but three-quarters of the way through I'd had enough, It seemed to me things were being said just to hear them said and for no other reason...and it wore thin very quickly. Perhaps a shorter release? Or maybe longer ambitions? (T/CS)

★★★★★

THE WAXMEN, "Slick View" (Vital Music, 263 E. 10th St., New York, NY 10009): Lush moody rock — surprisingly so for a three-piece. Though their cover of "King's Lead Had" isn't spectacular, it is appropriate, for the Eno influence can be heard in other cuts. Of their originals, I especially enjoyed "Grounded" and "Wanderlust", a pair of airplane songs that reveal a skewed view of the world. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE WEEDS, "Windchill" (Permanent Records, PO Box 93158, Milwaukee, WI 53203): Very mid-west influenced (read: Georgia-style) college guitar pop swirling with an undercurrent of country. The misty, muted vocals recall REM with a vengeance, but the music veers away from that comparison in the nick of time. The band works hard to please, their efforts are ernest and energetic, and they succeed. (T/CS)

★★★★★

WENDT/HUDAK, "Widening Lain" (Carl Howard, aT, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): Shades of the "Twilight Zone", with a little "Ultra-Man" and Hitchcock thrown in for good measure. The thing I liked most about this release was not only its healthy sense of mood and atmosphere, but the flow of the material, which kept moving along, and kept me listening along with it. (T/CS)

★★★★★

DEREK WHITE, "The Ethereal Aether" ($5 from 10 Leonardo Ln., Santa Cruz, CA 95064): Very lush and full-sounding solo rock, with lyrics that are more poetic than straightforward. Derek makes it all sound good with his percussion and guitar and vocals, but afterwards it's head-scratching time in trying to determine what it was all about. Good mellow stuff. (T/MG)

★★★★★

WIRE, "Eardrum Buzz" (Enigma Records, 11264 Playa Ct., Culver City, CA 90231-3628): To tell you the truth, I'm not all that thrilled about Wire. Sure, the title single here is catchy and pleasant, but why think of them as post-punk instead of recycled pop? Apparently when you're loved enough you can do anything; at least, that's the best explanation of the self-indulgent "It's a Boy" instrumental on the flip. Cotton candy for the airwaves, lots of form but no real substance. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

WIRE, "It's Beginning To And Back Again" (Enigma Records, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): I'm not surprised by this release — perhaps saddened would be a better word. Wire produced some great music in their heyday, and although I don't like all of it, at least I found it interesting. This cassette is just the opposite, with every detail seemingly calculated for commercial success. If "Finest Drops" (track 1, side 1) isn't already climbing the top 40 charts, it's not for lack of trying. What perplexes me is that while the individual band members are still capable of outstanding works, witness the solo efforts of Bruce Gilbert and Colin Newman, the band settles for mindless commercialism. Do we really need another New Order or Simple Minds? (T/KJ)

★★★★★

THE WOLFGANG PRESS, "Raintime" b/w "Bottom Drawer" & "Slowtime" (4AD US, 611 Broadway #536, New York, NY 10012): Dark and dismal but extremely methodical and painstaking music that hammers away at your guts with rhythms that won't let go and nearly crooned vocals. The murky bass line weaving in and out adds to the eerie mystic feeling. Music for real late nights alone with the wind. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

ERNEST WOODALL, "Albert's Warning - A Retrospective View of the 20th Century" (Daystar, PO Box 411, Huntington Station, NY 11746-0333):

While listening to this release, I remembered a composition with a similar theme. That composition was "Return" by Morton Subotnick. Subotnick'c composition spanned a huge time frame, much like Woodall's, but while Subotnick masterfully blended together various distinct periods of time, corresponding to the return of Halley's comet, Woodall's composition stops and starts in fits and never gains enough momentum to make a coherent statement about the 20th century. There are interesting pieces here and there, but not enough to fill a complete cassette. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

THE WOODIES, "Train Wreck" (Pop Records Inc., PO Box 13216, Tampa, FL 33681): Fast-moving pop — in fact, it might be moving too fast, as it barely settles down into a melody or style before one or another instrument goes off on a tangent dragging the rest of the band along. They're technically tight and some of these tunes are enjoyable but overall there's little sense of the band's identity here. Worth a listen for the vocal harmonies and the contrasting slabs of folk and pop, but still in need of improvement. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

WORRY BEADS and ORPHANS AND WIDOWS, "Pow" ($4 from Orphanage Records, PO Box 315, 1702 W. Camelback, Phoenix, AZ 85015): More gloomy rock from the label that puts out Theatre of Ice's recordings. This one has one band per side, with Worry Beads being a bit more into rock jams and Orphans and Widows somewhat more industrial. Dark music for dark nights. (T/MG)

★★★★★

RANDY X., "The Randy X. Songbook" ($3 from Randy X., PO Box 289, BU Station, Boston, MA 02215): Randy produces pleasant enough pop with AM aspirations on this 3 song tape. On "Hammer" he makes use of a horn section and backing chorus to liven the sound. "When I'm With You" is a lush ballad and "Garbage Man" is manic pop complete with upbeat synthesizer riffs. Randy has a knack for sounding similar to a dozen or so well known pop stars, though I suppose he's not bad for the genre. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

YAMUNJAM, "YamunRekord" (Gerry D., 76 Jenkins Rd., Bedford, NH 03102): A four-piece rock band that has a weird mix of poppy backgrounds and killer lead guitar for their sound. Ably fronted by Sandrine Durand's vocals, the combination works (except on a few tracks, notably the cover of "Whole Lotta Love"). Lyricas range from the silly ("All we want is money") to the emotional ("Demon Jealousy"). Needs a bit of polish, but off to a strong start. (T/MG)

★★★★★

RICHARD YOUNGER, "Blue Horses" (Rebel Toy Records, PO Box 625, New York, NY 10002): Country-based rock/pop mix that has some tendency to slide towards c&w drones but on the whole stays hopping. There's good potential here on the lead track as well as "Handful of Girls", featuring a bouncy sax from Anders Gaardman. The cover of "Guitar Man" is also worth a spin. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

BOB Z, "Test-Tube Marginal" ($3 from Bob Z. c/o Sarris Bookmarketing, 123 E. 23rd St. #300, New York, NY 10010): A selection of punk-folk tunes from Bob: the lyrics are punk, the music is pretty folky, him on acoustic guitar, sort of a busker sound. Selections here include "Satan's Flaming Underpants", "Shopping Mall Nazis" (a protest against gentrification) and "The Toilet Song". On the flipside he reads some of his other poetry, without accompaniment. (T/MG)

★★★★★

PAMELA Z, "Echolocation" (1181 Valencia, San Francisco, CA 94110): There is some synthesizer and drum programming here, but the heart of the release is Pamela's own vocals, which are multi-tracked in a major way. Ranging from spoken word to sustained notes, they paint a vocal picture of great depth, with ideas and words echoing in taut psychological fashion. A new sort of music, not comparable to much of anything else, but quite fascinating. (T/MG)

★★★★★

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MUSICAL NOTES:

★★★★★

•The band 40 Dog wants you all to know that, contrary to malicious rumors, no one has ever been killed at one of their shows.

•**Ajax Records** (PO Box 146882, Chicago, IL 60614) distributes a batch of 7" records, on their own label and others. Send a couple of stamps for a catalog.

•**Archives On Audio** PO Box 170023, San Francisco, CA 94117-0023) offers a number of tapes from researcher David Emory, who concentrates on the "hidden history" behind everyone from the CIA to the Aryan Nations. Send an SASE for their pricelist.

•**Audio Literature** (325 Corey Way #112, South San Francisco, CA 94080) presents readings of spiritual classics, including The Book of Job and Zen Mind, Beginner's Mind, on tape. SASE should get you a flyer.

•**Bangaway Productions** (1460 Cornell Rd., Atlanta, GA 30306) has a catalog of tapes and texts available for an SASE.

•**BYFIST BULLETIN** (Phoenix Entertainment Group, PO Box 2316, San Antonio, TX 78298-2316) is a fan club newsletter for the band Byfist. They'll probably send you a sample for a stmap.

•**J.C. Coleman** (PO Box 3194, Bellingham, WA 98227) writes "I do a radio program and am interested in obtaining lots of experimental/new music for review and airplay."

•**Curious Music** is a weekly show of esoteric and experimental music, broadcast from KRUI Student Radio, 897 South Quad, Iowa City, IA 52242. They're looking for more outre material, or stations who would like to carry the show.

•**DEAD MILKMEN NEWSLETTER #43** continues to chronicle the rise to stardom of this rather silly band. A mix of news, rumor, letters and outright lies, with odd things like Little Free Press ads thrown in at the corners. Copies on request from PO Box 58152, Philadelphia, PA 19102-8152.

•**Gateways Institute** (PO Box 1778, Ojai, CA 93023) sells all manner of tapes for enlightenment, plus a wide variety of subliminals. I suspect they'll send their multi-colored glossy catalog for the asking.

•**The Hope Organization** (PO Box 293, Pittsburgh, PA 15230) sells a batch of tapes of things like Throbbing Gristle and Psychic TV interviews, Charles Manson profile, and Aleister Crowley rituals. Price list for SASE.

•**KAOS**89.3 FM (The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA 98505) has an interesting approach to their playlist — they list everything, which may well mean that they play everything. They note that "we're committed to independent label + culturally & ethnically diverse music."

•**The Larry Mondello Band** (PO Box 451, Collinsville, CT 06022) is putting out a short band newsletter. It's four pages long and if you're interested I guess you can send them an SASE.

•**Light of Mind Publishing** (PO Box 4021, Felton, CA 95018) distributes a wide variety of "tools for transformation" — i.e., New Age

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•**Missing Link Music** (6920 Roosevelt Way NE #328, Seattle, WA 98115) is looking for tapes for their 1990 catalog. They distribute hundreds of indie cassettes on a consignment basis. If you're an interested musician, be sure to get in touch with them by September 30. More information may be had for an SASE, or their 1989 catalog is $1.

•**ThNational Association of Independent Record Distributors** (PO Box 568, Maple Shade, NJ 08052) is a trade group for alternative record labels of all sorts. Membership is $125 and they offer a number of benefits including wider distribution of press releases for members.

•**Porkopolis Cassettes** (PO Box 3529, Cincinnati, OH 45201) is soliciting material for a compilation cassette. All entrants will receive a copy of the final product.

•**Rice Radio Folio** (PO Box 1892, Houston, TX 77251) is the playlist and station report from KTRU at Rice University.

•RUMOR MILL is the newsletter for fans of the band True Rumor. To get on their mailing list, just write to PO Box 2783, Church St. Stn., New York, NY 10008.

•STATIC BARKING (3480 McTavish St. #B-15, Montreal, PQ, H3A 1X9, CANADA) is the program guide of CKUT-FM. In addition to the usual schedule and playlist stuff, they do print a bit of news about the independent radio scene in Canada.

•TUNA TIMES is a newsletter for fans of the band Hot Tuna. It includes reports on what they're up to plus promotional items you can buy and news on upcoming releases. I expect an SASE will land a sample copy.

•**Viidenkympin Villitys** is a 50's style rock show in Finland, looking for new material to play and review. You can contact them at PO Box 93, SF-33501 Tampere, FINLAND.

•**WKDI** (544 College Ave., DeKalb, IL 60115) issues regular playlistts, heavy on the larger indies but with some room for the little guy. They also print bits of news from the program director and the like.

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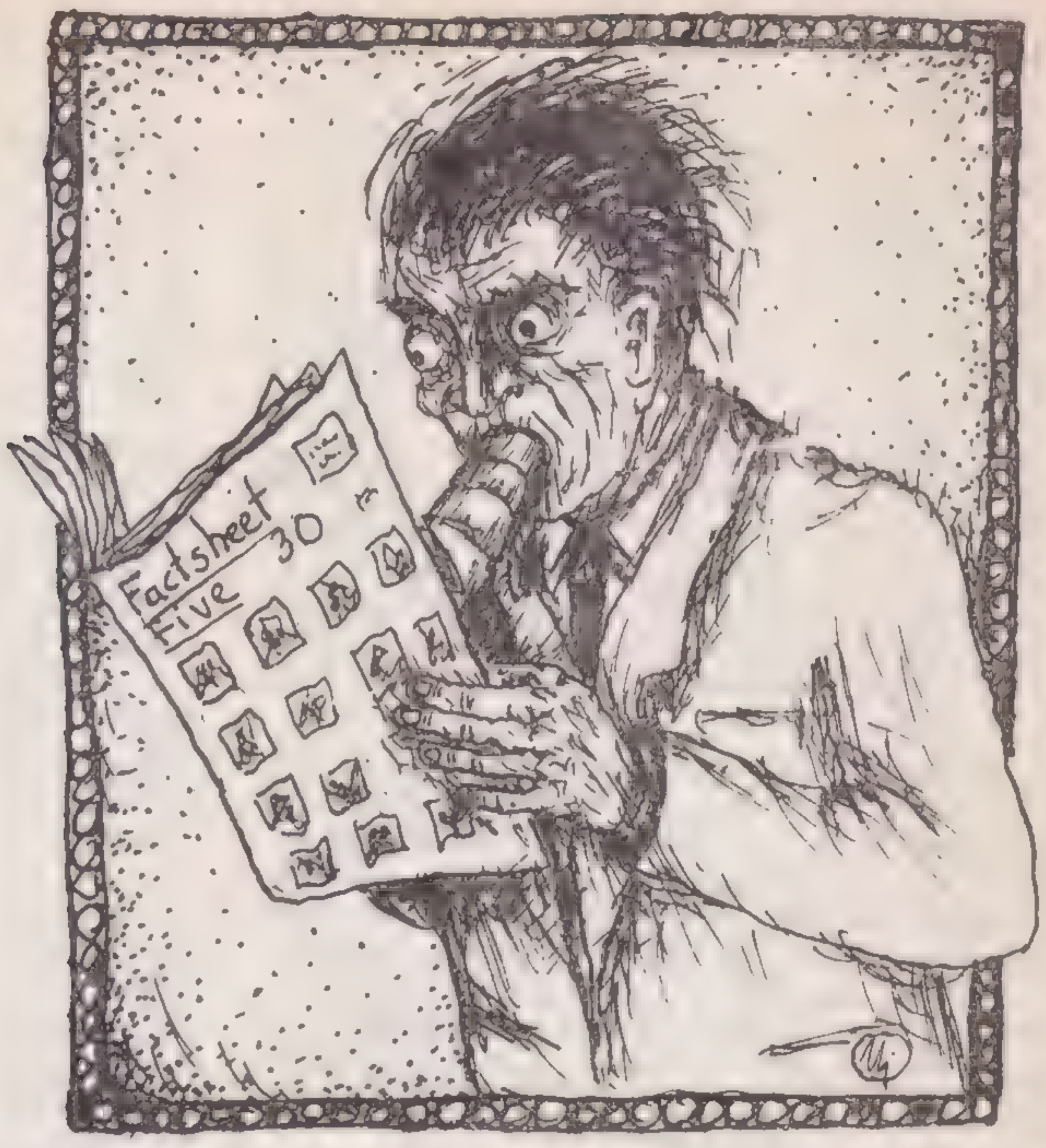

Dan Scott Ashwander, **AM I INSANE?** ($4.50 from Donna Kossy, Out-of-Kontrol Data Institute, PO Box 953, Allston, MA 02134): The answer to the title question here is probably "yes". Ashwander writes something like a mix of Kerry Thornley, Martti Koski and Jerry Falwell — apocalyptic mind-control and intelligence community secrets mixed up with a general rambling incoherence. Donna Kossy has located a Kook with a capital "K" here and given him free rein, allowing the 1983 work to be updated with all new stuff about communism, mind control, and Nazi sleeper agents. A Kooks classic. (D-40t)

★★★★★

Jean Barrot, **WHAT IS SITUATIONISM** ($2.50 from Flatland, PO Box 2420, Fort Bragg, CA 95437-2420): Don't be misled by the title — this is not a basic text for beginners but rather a heavy-handed anti-Sit polemic. Unless you're steeped in the history and machinations of the European left, much of this will be meaningless. I'm not particularly impressed by Barrot's critique either, which has a certain pot-calling-the-kettle-black feel to it. Includes an appendix by "Karen Eliot" (Stewart Home) with the version of art history he developed further in **ASSAULT ON CULTURE** (See FF30). (A5-56t)

★★★★★

George Bradford, **HOW DEEP IS DEEP ECOLOGY?** ($6.50 from Times Change Press, c/o Publishers Services, PO Box 2510, Novato, CA 94948): Subtitled "A Challenge to Radical Environmentalism", this was originally a special issue of **FIFTH ESTATE**, the well-known Detroit anarchist paper. Now it's been reprinted with minor changes — chiefly more careful wording of a few transitions, more precise language, and some notes on events since the original 1987 publication date — by Times Change Press. The bulk of the book is Bradford's long essay of the same title, devoted to analyzing the ideology of Earth First! EF of course claims to be the most radical and consistent of the groups opposing harm to Nature; the question is, what is behind this rhetoric?

A lot of disturbing assumptions, according to Bradford. His chief complaints are reliance on obsolete science as justification and an outright fascistic approach to human beings. On the first count, EF relies heavily on Malthusian and Darwinian notions of survival and die-off, holding that one of our major problems is that there are more people than the earth can support. The problem is that there is plenty of evidence that this simply isn't true — the food and resources are there, the distribution system sucks. On the second count, various EF officials have suggested letting the poor starve to death and keeping them out of the US so that we don't become the victims of the same sort of hunger catastrophe as the third world.

Bradford makes a good case, and the amount of debate this essay (and others on similar topics by Alien-Nation and Murray Bookchin) has generated shows that the case has not gone ignored. This edition also contains a second essay, "Women's Freedom: Key to the Population Question", which continues the critique of the modern Malthusians. A thoughtful set of essays, and well worth reading. (86 pp. pb)

★★★★★

Kurt Brereton (co-ordinator), **AUSTRALIAN MYTHOLOGICAL SIGHTS • SITES • CITIES** ($14 from Flatland, PO Box 2420, Fort Bragg, CA 95437-2420): This book has some flavor of Barthes to it, of building, demolishing and exploring myths. With the land and culture of Australia as anchors, a host of writers and artists take off in a search for significance. Such questions as "What makes a place a site?" and "What do advertising images tell us?" get explored in fairly straightforward ways. Some of this remains largely impenetrable to those unfamiliar with the culture, but enough is pitched to Everyman that the tone gets through, Interesting largely as an investigation into clashes between culture(s) and nature, but visually striking enough to serve as an arty although somewhat small coffee-table book. (208 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

William S. Burroughs, **TORNADO ALLEY** ($9pb/$16hc + $2 p&h from Water Row Books, PO Box 438, Sudbury, MA 01776): 7 short sharp blasts of manufactured reality, with illustrations by S. Clay Wilson. Burroughs takes a scalpel to the festering underbelly of modern life, dissecting away the nonessential details to leave a core of hard-edged discontent. Outlaws against the system get screwed, good men die, bad ones slip through the cracks. A bout of lyrical cynical writing, priced for collectors. (D-53t)

★★★★★

Carrie Drake, **THE BRAIN IN THE JAR: THE TRANSPARENCY OF DECEPTION** ($5.95 from Mind Matters Publishing, 2040 Polk St. #234, San Francisco, CA 94109): According to its publicity, "This book picks up the loose ends of the revolution of consciousness left by Aldous Huxley, Alan Watts — etc. The missing link between mind and matter, thought and motion". Well, that missing link may be hidden somewhere in this poorly-written medley of social commentary, pop physics, psychology and ranting, but I couldn't find it. I took notes as I read towards trying to critique the thesis of the book, rooted (I think) in some distinction between brain consciousness and mind consciousness. But in the end it became impossible to ignore the homophobia (which the author, a disgruntled transsexual, denies unconvincingly), the errors in the physics (Drake does not seem to grasp the difference between relativity and quantum theory), the portrayal of science as The Enemy, the incredibly poor proofreading ("I do want to reiterate here that it is those who hold the greatest military powers who are more dangerous than those who hold the greatest military powers"), the romanticized contrast between wonderful youth in the 60s and disgruntled punk youth in the 80's, the ludicrous assertions that science has been value-free since 1955, the closing heavy-handed pitch for Christianity as The Answer...why go on? This is a terrible book, not worth your time unless you're interested in crank literature. (240 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

James Draper, **SOURCES OF PSYCHEDELIC IMAGERY IN ROCK MUSIC OF THE LATE SIXTIES** ($6 from Loc Studios, PO Box 701, Silverado Canyon, CA 92676): A threefold comparison between rock music, Grof's theories on psychedelic drugs, and eastern religions. Draper's basic argument is that eastern imagery was particularly appropriate for music attempting to deal with the psychedelic experience since the imagery itself may be grounded in the ancient Hindu experiences with Amanita mushrooms. Along the way, he analyzes lyrics from the Byrds, Jefferson Airplane, the Beatles, and the Incredible String Band. Nothing staggeringly new here, but if you've never been exposed to these connections, this is a readable way to get them. (S-88)

★★★★★

Robin Gee (ed.) **1989 NOVEL & SHORT STORY WRITER'S MARKET** ($17.95 & 2.50 p&h from Writer's Digest Books, 1507 Dana Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45207): Formerly **FICTION WRITER'S MARKET**, this is a guide for the (mostly budding) author who wants to sensibly market manuscripts. It leads off with 130 pages of writing advice: writing in your spare time, techniques of good characterization, writing for kids, proper query letter and manuscript format, and so on. Then comes the heart of the book: market listings, each with contact information, descriptions, needs, payment, terms, and other editorial advice, often quoted from the editors themselves. There are four main sections here: Little/Literary Magazines (Including a few reviewed in **FF**, and mostly paying in contributor's copies), Commercial Periodicals (from **HADASSAH MAGAZINE** to **NATIONAL LAMPOON**), Small Press (shoestring and backyard book publishers) and Commercial Publishers (the big book publishing houses). There are also sections for special markets (including comics and BBS publishers), contests, and agents. The whole is indexed both by title and by the type of fiction needed.

Frankly, I can't see why anyone serious about having their fiction published would do without this. Where else do editors tell you precisely what they're after, what turns them on (or off)? The listings are as complete as possible, with yearly revisions — some very small markets fall through the cracks, and some of the most prestigious (like **ESQUIRE**) don't look at unsolicited work and so ask not to be listed — but you probably couldn't sell to them anyhow. And while I suspect some circulation figures of the little magazines are inflated, that's understandable. The staff at **NSSWM** have done much valuable spadework, and I expect thousands of writers appreciate this very much.

★★★★★

Janet Grimes (ed.), **CD REVIEW DIGEST ANNUAL 1988: VOLUME 2** ($65 from Peri Press, PO Box 348, Hemlock Ridge, Voorheesville, NY 12186-0348; Volume 1, a five-year cumulation, is still available for $135): A monumental guide to music being issued on CD, aimed at the library market (with its acid-free paper and multiple indices, by title, performer, reviewer and label number) but obviously useful to the serious aduiophile as well. There's about 7500 recordings listed in this volume. For each one, they give label information, notes of any awards won, and in an abitious and extremely useful move, excerpts from reviews. Indeed, being reviewed is the criterion for a recording to be included here; they scan 45 periodicals to build up their database. Whenever possible, multiple reviews are excerpted, sometimes as many as half a dozen. For each review, the reviewer's name and wordcount are also given, as well as a citation so you can look up the original.

The emphasis here is rather on classical than jazz & popular recordings (547 pages as opposed to 238; there's also about 35 pages of show & video recordings listed). But this is not for lack of trying — they do seem to want to be "The Guide to English Language Reviews of All Music Recorded on Compact Disc". Rather, it reflects the periodicals they scan; of the 45, only one (THE $ENSIBLE SOUND) has been reviewed in FACTSHEET FIVE, for example. So while there are a few releases by folks like Restless and Profile here, the bottom line is that if it didn't get reviewed by ROLLING STONE an indie CD probably isn't here. I couldn't find anything that I reviewed last year, for example. But we can help change this — if you're a serious music publisher that regularly prints CD reviews, why not send a copy of your zine to Janet so that it can be considered for inclusion in the next edition?

And of course the indie market isn't the entire popular CD world — you can still find works by Scruffy the Cat, Oingo Boingo, The Beat Farmers and Tangerine Dream here (though many of the reviews, for example from STEREO REVIEW, seem unsympathetic to new music). The bottom line is that if you're into classical CDs, you need to be able to find this book, either on your shelf or in your library. If you're into popular CDs, you should at least watch the coverage in future editions. (942 pp. hc)

★★★★★

Paul Guptill & Chris Drumm, **THE MANY WORLDS OF LARRY NIVEN** ($4.50 from Chris Drumm, Boooks, PO Box 445, Polk City, IA 50226): The latest of the Drumm Booklets series, this one is basically a bibliographical reference. Paul and Chris have collected in chronological order every Larry Niven short story, novel, interview and article that they could find. It's not a complete bibliophile's delight, as it omits the (probably impossible) task of listing all printings, but they do try to at least list all editions of each work. Also includes notes on awards Larry has gotten, interviews he's given, and where to find critical essays. (M-64r)

★★★★★

THREE FROM HANUMAN BOOKS

Hanuman Books is an intriguing literary small press. It's small literally as well as figuratively; the page size of their books is only 2 3/4 by 4 inches. The books have a lovely feel of craft to them as well, being printed by letterpress in Madras, India, hand-bound by fishermen taking time from mending their nets, and even wrapped in dust jackets. (The Indian connection provides occasional customs troubles as well). Run by Raymond Foye and Francesco Clemente, Hanuman is dedicated to bringing us works by people who might not otherwise be published. Herewith their three most recent books, available at $25 per a series of six books — or send for their catalog for more details, from PO Box 1070, Old Chelsea Station, New York, NY 10013-0905.

Jean Genet, **REMBRANDT**: A pair of essays, nominally of art criticism, originally published in French in 1958 and 1965 (although the translations are much more recent). The first of the pair, "What remains of a Rembrandt Torn into Four Equal Pieces And Flushed Down The Toilet...", seems more concerned with plumbing the depths of the human experience than with the painter, although it ends up speaking of his works. The second, titled simply "Rembrandt's Secret", is an attempt to understand the strength of the self-portraits which Rembrandt created. Deeply intellectual in the European tradition, but without the gratuitous aggression so prevalent in much intellectual prose. (92 pp.)

Allen Ginsberg, **YOUR REASON & BLAKE'S SYSTEM**: A transcription of a talk which Ginsberg gave at the Naropa Institute in 1978 and later revised expressly for this publication. In it he examines the psychological system developed by William Blake, especially as given in the latter's **URIZEN**. He agrees with Blake that it is the unnatural exertion of Urizen, reason, which is at the heart of the imbalances plaguing civilization today. This book is especially lovely, with full-color plates taken from Blake's own work. (48 pp. & 10 plates)

David Trinidad, **NOVEMBER**: A diary in blank verse of one month in 1986. Though there are some hints of exciting things in Trinidad's life (transvestite calendars, a one-night stand, past deaths in the family), what's presented here is stupefyingly ordinary. He writes of Thanksgiving dinners and sending flowers and phone-answering machines and the like, in careful but pedestrian detail. I'm afraid there was no spark here for me. (86 pp.)

★★★★★

John Held, Jr., **A WORLD BIBLIOGRAPHY OF MAIL ART** ($25 from 1903 McMillan Ave., Dallas, TX 75206): A monumental reference work in a very limited edition (less than fifty copies remain as of this review). John has of course been involved with mail art for over a decade now, and he asked his contacts to provide lists of articles on the subject which they wrote or appeared in. Things mushroomed, and after collecting data from 200 mail artists in 30 countries, John was left with a list of about 2100 books and articles — surely the most exahustive bibliographical listing in the area ever attempted.

The structure of this book is fairly simple. It's divided into broad sections by type of appearance: Artist Books, Mail Art Magazines, Newspapers, Mainstream Magazines, and so on. Within each section the articles are listed by author, giving full citation information but no abstracts of any sort. An index to authors and some notes on the conception of the project wrap it up.

John is trying to locate funding for an even more massive tome, based on this one but annotated. I wouldn't bet on it appearing any time soon. If you're interested in the history of mail art and mail art theory, you cannot afford to pass this version up. (215 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Stewart Home, **ART STRIKE HANDBOOK** (£2.95 from Sabotage Editions, BM Senior, London WC1N 3XX, ENGLAND): The "Art Strike" in question is an action being promoted by the avant garde Praxis group. They wish to convince artists to cease producing art during the years 1990-1993, or at least, in appearing to advocate such an action, they want to illuminate the linkages between art and the rest of the world. This booklet contains a mix of manifestoes, theoretical pieces, fiction and what-not, exploring the twin concepts of art and art strike. The basic argument seems to be that "art" as a formal activity is another bit of repression on the part of international capital, in opposition to authentic living. Hence we would be better off without it — and by ceasing to produce art we could cease oiling the gears that crush us. The concept can't be quite dismissed out of hand, but I don't expect it to catch on. (D-40t)

★★★★★

Stewart Home, **THE FESTIVAL OF PLAGIARISM** (£2.95 from Sabotage Editions, BM Senior, London WC1N 3XX, ENGLAND): A short history of the events leading up to the Festival of Plagiarism held in London in January and February of 1988, and the Festival itself. Home's account alternates between theory and criticism, seeking both to explain what was done and why it was done. Throughout he is quite conscious of the fact that history is created as much in the writing as in the doing; on the other hand, as this is the lengthiest account to date of the Festival it is also likely to become the definitive one. A valuable bit of documentation from the marginal arts network. (D-24t)

★★★★★

Jim Huang (ed.), **THE DROOD REVIEW'S 1989 MYSTERY YEARBOOK** ($11 from The Drood Review, PO Box 8872, Boston, MA 02114): The first in what is intended to be an annual series of reference books to the mystery publishing field. The heart of this book is a listing of all the mystery books they were able to find that were published in 1988 — 1539 in all. In addition to bibliographic information, review citations are given so that you can track down what's been said about a book before buying it. There's a brief statistical summary of things like what percent were written by men or by women. Then there is a list of all the mystery awards given in 1988, from the Edgars to the Anthony Awards. To help out the reader, they give a list of about 50 bookstores within the US and Canada specializing in mystery fiction. Finally, there's a summary of mystery periodicals, giving contact and ordering info and brief reviews, that covers a much wider ground than I've been able to in FF. All in all, a useful reference. (96 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Angus J. Huck, **SUPERFLUOUS LIVES: A TALE OF MODERN TIMES** (List price $9.50; Dunscaith Publishing, 28 West Lodge Avenue, London W3 9SF): This novel opens rather dramatically, with the near-successful suicide of Nick Stentiford. His life has shattered like a mirror hit by a brick, and that's exactly how we are presented with it in the rest of the book. The narrative jumps back and forth over a two-decade span, from the mid-60s to the mid-80s, detailing growing up in a well-off family in Britain, going through college, and struggling with a variety of jobs loosely related to directing. Although most of the shards here are from Nick's life, those of his friends and relatives are explored as well. In all, it serves as a tale of young lives in the 70s, a decade which really didn't have a lot to offer to youth.

It's a rather depressing book, actually, about a young man of much promise who gets caught up in a world where promise doesn't mean much. The system slowly grinds Nick's idealism out, his marriage collapses of its own weight, his relations with his broken family have a veneer of love with no substance to them, except in the case of his sister Jenny — there the unresolved relationship acts as a major cause of Nick's stress. Huck guides us through all this in short chunks — 130 or so chapters — with a writing style that, despite the avalanche of references to things unknown to this citizen of the colonies, keeps the reader hooked. A first book for the author, a first book for the press, and one which shows definite promise for things to come. (306pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Robert J. Johnson, Jr., **IT'S NOT ALL WATERGATE** ($15.98 from Harrison Books, PO Box 2544, Baton Rouge, LA 70821): This is being billed as a book, though actually it's more of a double-spaced manuscript in a rather light binder. The subject is the author's bafflement over the treatment of Nixon after Watergate came to light. It's all mixed up with a song which he wrote and couldn't get played on the radio, although he neglects to include the lyrics. Mostly the book consists of quiet rambling and wondering what the president could have done to be so despised. It's hard to make anything of it, and harder still to see why anyone would pay $16 for it. (S-48)

★★★★★

John Kremer, **TINSELTOWN, USA** ($6.95 from Ad-Lib Publications, PO Box 1102, Fairfield, IA 52556-1102): A trivia quiz book with a geographic bent, directed to fans of motion pictures and television. The questions are all things like "Name two recent action movies set in Detroit, Michigan" or "What was the hometown of Ann Marie (Marlo Thomas) in *That Girl*". Sometimes hints are given, sometimes not. There's about 400 movies and 400 shows featured here, with both title and geographic indices. (128 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Dr. Jeffrey Lant, **THE UNABASHED SELF-PROMOTER'S GUIDE** ($34 from 50 Follen St. #507, Cambridge, MA 02138): Subtitled "What ever man, woman, child and organization in America needs to know about getting ahead by exploiting the Media", this is another no-nonsense book from the author of **MONEY TALKS** and **CASH COPY**. Like those books, this one is firmly grounded in reality, because Jeffrey has actually used all the methods here to promote his own books, talks, and seminars. Judging by the way his business has taken off, it works.

The book covres both printed and electronic media. Before getting into either one, though, there are a couple of unusual chapters. The first one is on "Technical & Mental Prerequisites for the Unabashed Self-Promoter" and the second is "Fashioning a Quintessential American Success Image". Obviously, if you don't have something to promote, you can't succeed no matter how well you know the ropes of promotion — but too many publicity manuals skip this part completely. It's nice to find it here.

For print sources, Jeffrey covers producing a media kit, arranging for your own articles to appear, and generating articles about you and your activities. For electronic media, both arranging and giving interviews are reviewed in detail. Other sections cover the proper use of books for self-promotion, the talk circuit, the use of publicists, and more. Appendices give samples of all the important documents, from sample articles to letters requesting the mayor to declare a day in your honor.

There's a lot of information here, and this book is *not* going to end up on my shelf. That's because it's going to sit on my desk where I can make use of it. For anyone

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serious about growing their own business in a field that depends on public notice — fanzine publishing, for instance — this is a wise investment indeed. (366pp. tpb)

★★★★★

LONELY PLANET

Lonely Planet has been a busy little publisher this quarter. In addition to their book on travel in Japan, they've sent me ten other travel guides. Unfortunately, I've reached the limit of my expertise in the subject. Every one of their books is sturdy and useful-looking. Every one has an introduction to the culture of the area covered, and hints on what to pack and how to cope with local laws and customs. And every one has detailed notes on what to see, where to go, where to eat and where to stay. That said, it's time some of these were field-tested. I'm going to list the books on hand. If you've been to one of these places, or are going there shortly, and would like to write a review, please get in touch. Otherwise, these titles may all be ordered from Lonely Planet publishing, Embarcadero West, 112 Linden St., Oakland, CA 94607:

BALI & LOMBOK: A TRAVEL SURVIVAL KIT ($10.95, 235 pp)

CANADA: A TRAVEL SURVIVAL KIT ($12.95, 476 pp.)

CENTRAL AFRICA: A TRAVEL SURVIVAL KIT ($10.95, 260 pp.): Cameroun, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Sao Tome and Zaire are covered in this one.

EASTERN EUROPE ON A SHOESTRING ($14.95, 665 pp): Covers East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Albania, Bulgaria, Romania, Poland and the Western USSR.

ECUADOR & THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS: A TRAVEL SURVIVAL KIT ($10.95, 292 pp)

KASHMIR, LADAKH & ZANSKAR: A TRAVEL SURVIVAL KIT ($10.95, 226 pp): Those are in northwest India, and if you didn't know that, you're not the right reviewer for this book.

MEXICO: A TRAVEL SURVIVAL KIT ($17.95, 940 pp.): Everything from beaches to Aztec ruins.

NORTH-EAST ASIA ON A SHOESTRING ($11.95, 323 pp): China, Japan, Taiwan, South Korea, Hong Kong, and Macau.

SOUTH-EAST ASIA ON A SHOESTRING ($14.95, 677 pp): Sixth edition of a book by the founder of the publishing company, revised over the course of thirteen years of travel.

TRAMPING IN NEW ZEALAND ($10.95, 266 pp): From 3-day easy walks to 7 day "Extremely Challenging" glacier hikes.

★★★★★

Edward J. Madara & Abigail Meese (eds.), **THE SELF-HELP SOURCEBOOK: FINDING AND FORMING MUTUAL AID SELF-HELP GROUPS** ($8 from St. Clares-Riverside Foundation, Self-Help Clearinghouse, Pocono Road, Denville, NJ 07834): A reference guide for people looking for or hoping to form self-help mutual aid groups: informal groups which help people get through a variety of life's tougher experiences. The core of the book is a listing of over 500 national, international and model self-help groups, dealing with topics as diverse as divorce, spinal bifida, weight reduction, trauma recovery, and literacy. They also offer suggestions on starting your own group, whether you're a professional or a layman. Various clearinghouses which can help you find other groups are listed, along with over 100 national toll-free helplines for when you need support in a hurry. Looks like a useful resource for anyone into human services. (34 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Kyle Maning, **Z-COMM: MIA** (Leisure Books, 276 5th Ave., New York, NY 10001; write their Customer Service department for a free catalog): This is of the genre sometimes known as men's action-adventure: part of a series of books focusing on one improbably tough bunch of mercenaries. (It's reviewed here for two reasons: first, I use this stuff for escapism; second, "Kyle Maning" is an FF reader). Z-Comm is a group of five mercenaries who undertake missions for the highest bidder, provided "one, that it didn't jeopardize the interests of the U.S. government or cost innocent American lives; two, it was technically feasible, no matter how dangerous; and three, it achieved a strategic objective that left the world a little bit less of a corrupt, stinking septic tank than it already was."

In this particular case, the team goes into Viet Nam to rescue some American MIAs who are still being forced to help in the annual heroin harvest. Naturally, all sorts of things go wrong, allowing for a great deal of lovingly-described mayhem and a bit of suspense. The writing is classic: "Cage whirled and scored another takedown, triggering a burst of .380 steel which flushed another buttonman down the roaring toilet of eternity." It seems obvious that the author doesn't take this stuff seriously. What worries me is that some of the readers probably do. Low-level escapism, politically very incorrect, and lots of fun. (279pp. pb)

★★★★★

Ian L. McQueen, **JAPAN, A TRAVEL SURVIVAL KIT** (Third Edition) ($13.95 from Lonely Planet, Embarcadero West, 112 Linden St., Oakland, CA 94607): The author begins by giving his credentials as a longterm resident of Japan who has made numerous trips by himself. I suppose I should begin my review by stating that I lived in Japan for four months back in 1975 and spent five days a week sightseeing by myself. The other two days, I took my husband back to the best of what I'd found that week. We were based in Tokyo but did manage a 10 day stay in Kyoto, two one-day excursions to Nikko and one one-day excursion by tour bus to Hakona and Fuji.

This book is indeed quite interesting and may be fairly useful, but its subtitle is misleading. It is best thought of not as a "survival kit for a traveler" (meaning a tourist) but as an invaluable supplemental guide for a longterm resident. It will help a foreigner residing in Japan through the maze of bureaucratic regulations and some of the hedges of social etiquette. It has lots of useful information about the train system. It is not particularly useful as a tour guide because of its poor organization.

I used three tour guides in Japan: Fodor, Let's Go, and Nagel. The first is chiefly useful to the middle-class mundane who wants to stay at a good if expensive hotel, to see all the "must" tourist sights, and to go shopping. The second tells the student about laundromats, cheap hotels, an cheap restaurants as well as tourist sights. The third focuses on tourist attractions, with detailed maps of many of the castles and shrines. I also used the Hoikussha Color Book (in English) guides to Tokyo, Japanese Castles, Buddhist Images, and Kyoto. I could have used Lonely Planet's guidebook too. If I had to choose just one of those guides, I think it would be Nagel *plus* a reliable travel agent.

Reading McQueen's **JAPAN**, I found myself distracted by his critical point of view. The average tourist doesn't need to (or want to) know most of the imperfections of Japanese society and psychology. No purpose is served (except venting the author's spleen) by the paragraphs on how the Japanese like reading books, only printed in their own language, which tell them that they are physically and morally unique. No purpose is served by denouncing the rule that a resident arrested for being without a residency pass is confined until the pass is fetched rather than allowed to go get it; the same rule exists in every country that I know of.

Unfortunately, McQueen's knowledge is somewhat spotty in areas a tourist needs help with. A traveler should be able to depend on his guidebook for help with a foreign language. McQueen gives plain rather than polite versions of verbs in his sample phrases. He translates "hai" as "yes", when "I heard you" is generally considered more accurate (and explains why the Japanese say "hai" to preface a polite disagreement). He translates "sakura" as "cherry blossom" when instead "sakura" is the cherry tree, and "oka" is the blossom. He doesn't explain that "mizu" means "room temperature water" and so one cannot ask for "atsui mizu" (hot mizu) or "samui mizu" (cold mizu) without confusing Japanese who aren't very used to how foreigners mangle their language.

A traveler should also be able to depend on his guidebook for information about alien religions. McQueen says Shinto has no fixed ceremonies, apparently forgetting that each shrine has annual holidays. (He also doesn't mention the Yasukuni Shrine in Tokyo where all dead servicemen's souls are enshrined, even the Christian ones, even against their family's objections.) He says that a foreigner can appreciate Buddhist temples as works of art even if he isn't familiar with the symbolism. It might have been kinder to give a few of the more common symbols, especially the one most misunderstood: the swastika, an ancient Buddhist symbol of eternity.

McQueen also leaves out a number of things that the traveler needs to know. For instance, the Climate section skips over typhoons. A good guidebook would mention not only the typical typhoon season and inches of rain, but also the fact that the wind is so strong that an umbrella is all but useless and the temperature is so hot that anything but the lightest plastic raincoat will make you quite uncomfortable.

The Holiday section mentions the twelve national holidays on which government offices are closed, but there is no mention of popular holidays such as Valentine's Day, White Day, the Buddha's Birthday, and Christmas.

The Toilets section mentions that only first class train cars have Western-style toilets, but implies you need a first-class ticket to use them. You don't. It doesn't mention to toilet tanks whose handle is upright and can be swung left or right, toward the ideograph for large or small, for either a full flush or a half-size flush.

The Minshuku section contains a statement that Westerners should not "use soap in the bathtub or wear the benjo slippers in the house" but doesn't condescend to explain what's wrong with these practices, or in fact what "benjo slippers" are. (A Japanese inn or house has separate rooms for the toilet (considered dirty) and for the bathtub (considered clean). Benjo is a "men's term" for toilet. Literally, it means "shit-place". It's not used by (or to) women who tend to use terms like "o-te-arai" (honorable hand-washing [room]) or "toi-re". And people should soap and rinse off outside the bathtub (there's a drain there too), and then get into the tub to soak.) It might also be useful to tell people that many ryokans don't have hot water at night or in the early morning, but men will be provided with a thermos of near-boiling water for shaving. And that ryokan rate is per person, not per room, because it includes three meals a day.

McQueen mentions that department stores are worth visiting to look at exotic kimono, but doesn't mention that most of them include small museums/galleries — and makets on the basement, with cheap restaurants on a higher floor. And sometimes even a Western-style toilet.

Then there's tricks of traveling which a guidebook should pass on. For instance, you can buy what seems to be a one-week tour of Japan with Japan Air Lines and extend it to fit your needs. Your stay on any hotel on your tour can be extended up to several weeks — at the tour rate — because you have established a special relationship with the hotel, by using JAL as an intermediary, We used this to visit Kyoto during a holiday weekend when all hotels were fully booked. Our three day tour not only got us a good hotel room at a discount but also meant we could stay there for ten days at the same rate. Your tour will come with coupons for train travel, and with half-day and full-day tours of city attractions by tour-bus, all of which you can schedule at your convenience with the help of a knowledgeable travel agent.

Another major problem with this book is lack of organization, If you want to locate the sections I've mentioned (or others like Changing Money or Earthquakes), the only way to do it is to page through the book. The index only covers geographical locations, And the table of contents isn't particularly detailed.

There's no list of Must See Attractions or Top Ten Lists (castles, Shrines, Temples, etc.). Instead, the would-be tourist has to read through the entire book to find out what's worth making special trips to. Himeji is mentioned on page 454, with a note that it has "the finest castle in Japan." I agree. But with Kyoto (only an hour or so away by bullet-train) covered on pages 396-420, I think it's unlikely the average tourist will ever find out about Himeji.

I am prejudiced against any guidebook that mentions Tokyo Tower's branch of Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum but doesn't mention Shingaku-ji where the 47 Ronin of Lord Asano lie buried, There's also no mention of Tokyo's Sword Museum and Origami Museum and other tourist attractions I enjoyed very much. (576 pp. tpb) (Guest review by Lee Gold)

★★★★★

Thom Metzger & Richard P. Scott, **BIG GURL** (NAL/Onyx 451-JE132; or, direct from the Thom at PO Box 25193, Rochester, NY 14625 for about $5): I usually don't review stuff from gargantuan publishers like New American Library, but in this case the authors are both from our side of the literary tracks. Thom is the moving force behind the Ziggurat series of productions, while Richard runs the Vibrating Egg studio. As Thom says, "I'm still not sure how we convinced NAL to publish it....As far as I'm concerned this is an alternative press book which was accidentally published by a large corporation."

The publisher classes it as "horror". I would add "sick". Big Gurl is Mary Cup, the product of child abuse, institutionalization, and a worldview created by too much television. She's also a giantess, with enough physical strength to get what she wants. The book is centered on her, watching her sleep on the floor or squash mice or kill the neighbors' dog or eat borax. She's able to do all this thanks to Vernon, her social worker who, due to a screwed-up background of his own, ends up in love with her. The combination produces a psychological thriller replete with vicious, sadistic murders and a split personality directing all the mayhem. There's some ugly imaginations behind this one. Not for the squeamish, but splatter movie fans may well want a copy. (253 pp. pb)

★★★★★

Eric Michaels, **FOR A CULTURAL FUTURE** ($8 from Flatland, PO Box 2420, Fort Bragg, CA 95437-2420): A scholarly monograph published in Australia in 1987. Actually, "scholarly" is too simple, for by decision of those involved, the author has been made a member of the aboriginal kinship group (the Warlpiri) he is both researching and working with. The subject at hand is a local, independent television filming and broadcast project.

The aboriginal culture presents some unique problems to a long-lasting visual mode of documentation. In particular, dead people must not be referred to directly. This has resulted in re-editing of some older productions, arguments about whether some people were enough in the background of shots not to matter and, in extreme cases, the banishment of particular films from further showing. Michaels explains all this with an admirable clarity and sympathy as he chronicles several of the aboriginal productions.

Yet there is a further and more important message here. The author is concerned to argue for a cultural future rather than a lifestyle future. That is, he wishes the aboriginal people to have a life rather than a lifestyle which may be sensationalized by the media and regulated by the government. Local television has a crucial role in this struggle, as it can potentially avoid the sort of homogenisation which the national satellite broadcast TV may seek to enforce. But the issues were, at the time this book was written, unclear. I wish I knew what had happened in the last few years — which is pretty good evidence of the fascination of this book. (80 pp. pb)

★★★★★

Octave Mirbeau, **THE TORTURE GARDEN** ($14 from Re/Search, 20 Romolo St. #B, San Francisco, CA 94133): Despite its origin in France at the tail end of the 19th century, this decadent work seems to fit precisely with the modern spirit of despair and extremism. Mirbeau juxtaposes two stories to great effect. In the first, the unnamed narrator is in France, embroiled in modern politics and society, clawing his way up the pyramid without scruples. Alas for him, his mentor miscalculates, and he finds it politic to leave the country and enter the second, mirroring story here.

The narrator ends up in China, in the company of a somewhat morbid and excitable Englishwoman. She takes him — and this is the crux of the book — to the Torture Garden, a refined palace of punishment reflecting the height of Oriental despotism. At home in his own tawdry world, the narrator cannot cope with this one, or with Clara's (his lover & guide) fascination with the twin themes of love and death. It's easy to read this as an allegory for contemporary politics, but it also holds up as a bit of spiritual scab-picking.

Disgusting in spots, enlightening in others, this book does not rub its point in your face so much as insist on it: the fact that people behave badly under many situations, and that we condone things in our own society we will not tolerate in others. The translation is painstaking and gives a rather baroque feel of horror to the whole, jarring the nerves with Mirbeau's careful descriptions of flowers in the midst of carnage, for example. The book's design should also not go unnoticed. Re/Search has done an excellent job of setting it in type and illustrating it with dreamy photos, as well as picking out shreds of text to head each page. Definitely a unique work. (128 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Walt Morey, **SCRUB DOG OF ALASKA** ($5.95 + $1.50 s/h from Blue Heron Publishing, Route 3 Box 376, Hillsboro, Oregon 97124) I'm afraid I'm a sucker for soft fuzzy critters and kid's books, which is why Mike gave me this one to review. As a result I'm not very objective about a book by the author of Gentle Ben about a dog and a kid coming of age together in the remote areas of Alaska. It's also about rejection and differences and finding oneself, if on a fairly simplistic level (which is to say the good guys mostly win, or at least end up happy, although with somewhat less predictability than a lot of children's stories). I like it, and you probably know by now whether you (or maybe even your kids) will too. (152 pp. tpb) [Guest review by Carolyn MacDonald]

★★★★★

Ryam Nearing, **THE NEW FAITHFUL: A POLYFIDELITY PRIMER** ($7.95 from PEP, PO Box 5247, Eugene, OR 97405): This comes from Polyfidelitious Educational Productions, the same group that publishes **PEPTALK**. It's a "how-to" manual for polyfidelity: a family relationship of multiple adults who remain faithful within the family, thus having several primary relationships — a way to fulfill needs for both fidelity and multiplicity.

Nearing starts off with some simple definitions and explains where polyfidelity fits in with other forms of relating such as open marriages and serial monogamy. She then gives a self-evaluation test to help clarify the reader's feelings on the subject. The rest of the book is devoted to practical matters: finding partners, making decisions in a group, legal and medical problems, sex and parenting, to hit the high points.

Throughout there are many resources and references given, to help family explorers find out what others have done and thought. It looks to me like this straightforward, engaging book will be of help not just to potential polyfides, but with anyone concerned with finding a close-knit intentional community group to go through life with. (71 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

John Penisten: **HAWAI'I, THE BIG ISLAND: A PARADISE GUIDE** ($9.95 + $2 s&h from Paradise Publications, 8110 SW Wareham, Portland, OR 97223): One of a series of guides for the first-time tourist to the Hawaiian Islands. It leads off with a section of general information and travel tips. Then comes a section on "Where to Stay — What to See", organized geographically, with detailed information on hotels and parks and other sights in the area. A large selection of restaurants (helpfully indexed by type of food) follows. Finally, there is a big chunk of the book devoted to recreation and tours — submarine tours, glass-bottomed boats, hiking, helicopter tours, parasailing, and much more.

It's been more than a decade since I was on the big island, and my memories are dimming a bit. But every place I could remember being I was able to find in here, and Penisten's notes generally match up with my recollections. The book would benefit from some photographs — after all, there is some of the most accessible rain forest scenery in the world there — and from some notes on the local cuisine (poi, for example, deserves at least an attempt at description). But these are relatively minor points. As a tourist's introduction, this book will serve admirably. (254 pp. tpb)

[Paradise also has guides out to Kaua'i, Maui, and O'ahu. If you're the right person to review one of these, please get in touch with me.]

★★★★★

Doris Robinson, **MUSIC AND DANCE PERIODICALS: AN INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY & GUIDEBOOK** ($65 from Peri Press, PO Box 348, Hemlock Ridge, Voorheesville, NY 12186-0348): This is a directory of 1867 periodicals devoted to music and dance subjects, designed as a reference for libraries. Each entry contains as much information as possible: Title, frequency, language, ordering information, editor, format, size, ISSN and OCLC numbers, type of music, number and length of reviews, intended audience, circulation and a brief description, among other things. There are 19 sections in all, including Regional, Educational, Band, Popular, Jazz & Blues, Folk and Musical Instruments. (The only misclassification I spotted was **SOUND CHOICE**, listed under "Sound" rather than "Popular", where I would put it). There are several indices, including title, subject, and organization or publisher.

Being based on other major references (such as ULRICH'S), the coverage of the fanzines is not especially good. I found a dozen or two titles I know, including **FORCED EXPOSURE**, **MAXIMUM ROCKNROLL**, **BANG**, **OFFENSE NEWSLETTER**, and **CMJ**. But the publishers say that they intend to provide "comprehensive coverage of the music and dance periodical field", and welcome sample copies and information. Maybe in next year's edition we can expand the popular music section somewhat, and get more than three entries in the index under "Punk".

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I can't think of many reasons why an individual would want this book. But I can think of lots of reasons to urge your library to order a copy. Robinson seems dedicated to providing a useful and accurate reference work, and such endeavors should be encouraged. (382 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Tom & Marilyn Ross, **THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO SELF-PUBLISHING** ($16.95 & $2.50 p&h from Writer's Digest Books, 1507 Dana Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45207): I suspect there are a fair number of you who could use this book. It's not a guide to putting out fanzines on a shoestring (get my own book for that), but to publishing actual books yourself on a semi-pro level. You might have to invest a few thousand to do things on their scale, but the potential for a good profit is there if you've got a book that readers will like (the usual rub of the matter).

The Rosses practice what they preach, publishing books and helping others to self-publish. This encyclopedic reference is crammed with useful information on everything from word processors to remainder companies. They tell you how to get an ISBN and bar code symbol for your book, what to do about copyrights, where to look for cover design resources, and much more. The chapters on advertising and promotion are exceptionally good, and they provide a reference section with addresses for reviewers, big libraries, and other important players in the book game. Other appendices include a glossary and a set of timetables and checklists so you don't miss any important steps.

If you've got the itch to publish, a good idea, and some working capital, you can save a whole lot of time and grief by getting this guide and following its advice. See you in the bookstores! (420 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Phyllis Schlafly (ed.), **WHO WILL ROCK THE CRADLE?: TWO CONFERENCES ON CHILD CARE** ($14.95 from Eagle Forum Education & Legal Defense Fund, 316 Pennsylvania Ave. SE #203, Washington, DC 20003): The bulk of this book is devoted to arguing that daycare is a bad thing and that Federally-funded daycare is even worse. This is situated in the context of twenty essays from advocates of a "pro-family agenda" (which is, incidentally, blatantly nationalistic, homophobic and anti-feminist as well). As essays they're reasonably well written, and in some cases even stylistically elegant. As intellectual arguments, though, they are pretty dishonest — chiefly by selective citation of only studies that support their position, although in at least one case that I know well (the connection between employment and fertility) demonstrably false (as shown by the demographics of the industrial revolution).

This is not to say that everything here is wrong. Certainly anarchists can agree with conservatives that increasing taxes to fund universal daycare is a Bad Idea. And personal childcare is probably better for the kids than institutional childcare. But we must part ways over their incessant idolization of the nuclear family, with a full-time mother in the home and a full-time male breadwinner. I'd rather see thinking (as exemplified by people like Mycall Sunanda of **KID'S LIB NEWS**) on innovative ways to give children better lives than this attempt to force everyone into the straitjacket of a "traditional" lifestyle with no alternatives. (295 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Arnold Skemer, **THE FAMINE** ($6.95 from Phyrgian Press, 58-09 205th St., Bayside, NY 11364): A wild tale of apocalypse, set in modern India. Skemer skillfully weaves the trappings of life in Calcutta into the story, portraying an unfamiliar (at least to most Americans) culture well enough that it's alien but understandable.

The story starts with Jiban Chatterjee, one of the multitude starving due to a long-delayed monsoon and depleted foodstocks. He slips into a life of crime as the city slips into madness and despair, his deterioration paralleling its own. Yet as we get to know and sympathize with the character, Skemer drops him largely from the story, moving out to larger concerns. Ultimately it becomes a modern parable, a struggle between a reincarnated Gandhi and the power of modern technology. At stake is the salvation of India and the entire world.

A curious book, and one which leaves more questions open than it answers. The ending is perhaps a bit predictable, but getting there is an interesting journey nonetheless. (106pp. pb)

★★★★★

David Sonenschein, **SOME HOMOSEXUAL MEN** ($8 from PO Box 15744, San Antonio, TX 78212-8944): A set of 24 interviews which David conducted for the Kinsey Institute way back in 1967. As such, they are valuable mainly for what they tell us about societal attitudes 22 years ago. Needless to say, things were a lot more repressive then: police raids on gay bars, much concern with putting up a good cover by going out on dates with women or getting married, susceptibility to blackmail being very important, and so on. There were also obvious psychological effects to living in this climate of repression, even if it was easing. Many of the men here speak of their homosexuality as a sickness or an imperfection, which I don't think is so prevalent today. The other interesting thing here is that there is very little graphic language; whether it was simply less used or whether these interviews were self-censored so as not to give the researchers a poor impression, I don't know. (217 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Roy Tate, **THE ASTROLOGY OF GENIUS: A STUDY OF THE NOBEL PRIZE WINNERS** ($9.95 from PO Box 516, Miami, FL 33238): A listing of all the Nobel prizewinners to date, together with their birthdates, the year and reason for their prize, and the locations of planets and midpoints in their charts. This is organized by sign and prize type, so for example all the Virgo chemists appear in one place. For each sign an "Achievement Profile" is developed ("Leo Physicists have a special interest in light and other high-energy particles which is consistent with their designation as a Fire Sign" is one sentence from one page of these). Finally, there are some general conclusions and suggestions for further research.

I remain a skeptic; the astrological interpretations remain very general, and as the author points out there are a lot of things to choose from when interpreting a chart. On the other hand, a chi-squared test on the distribution of birthdates among the signs shows only a 5-10% chance that the birthdate of a Nobel Prize Winner is a random variable. In other words, Nobelists are significantly more likely to be Geminis than Capricorns. I can't explain this, I don't deny it, I still don't think it has anything to do with the position of the planets. (S-140)

★★★★★

tentatively, a convenience, **HOW TO WRITE A RESUME VOLUME II: MAKING A GOOD FIRST IMPRESSION** ($7 from PO Box 382, Baltimore, MD 21203): Put out by Apathy Press but available directly from the author/artist/madman, this is the most accessible accounting of some major projects from tent's life yet. The incidents, actions, shows and general craziness told here covers most of the 19802, and includes snippets of legitimate news coverage, documentary photos, and previous writings — some of them in the verbal code which made tent's work so hard to penetrate for a while.

It's an interesting life on display, from drug trips to the art world. The section I found most enlightening is "Three Year Emergency of Fire & Grim" — about living in South Baltimore in a progressively deteriorating neighborhood and coming to various accommodations with the drunks who squatted and trashed the building next door. Another strong piece explains a guerilla art action at Luskin's, an upscale department store that was one day confronted with one of tent's videos showing on all the screens in the television department.

A cultural document not to be missed. (HL-139)

★★★★★

Marco Vassi, **THE EROTIC COMEDIES** (£4.95 cover price from Black Spring Press, 46 Rodwell Road, London SE22, 9LE, ENGLAND): A wild collection of short pieces from someone who seems to have made a career of erotic living and writing. The first half of the book consists of a variety of short fictional pieces dealing with the permutations of sex, going far beyond the usual *Penthouse* fare: coprophilia, sexual entrapment, therapeutic enemas, polymorphous pervisity, you name it, it's here, in hot little chunks.

In the second half of the book Vassi develops a theory of sex, or rather *metasex*, to explore the meanings of the sensual acts in his life. He starts from simple body consciousness, of the act as a teaching tool, and ends up trying to classify the variety of nonreproductive sexual acts by their overtones. The result is a sort of sexual yoga or path, intriguing though perhaps not as readily followed as in the pre-AIDS days when the book was written. (223pp. pb)

★★★★★

Mikel Weisser, **STORIES FOR THE TV GENERATIONS** ($5 & $2 p&h from The Bookstore, 307 W. Allen, Springfield, IL 62704): If writers played for baseball teams, Weisser would be a utility infielder. He comes up with a lot of different types of story, and does a competent, though generally not flashy, job on all of them. (Well, I wasn't all that hot on the overused dialect spellings in "Waiting in Line for Sealy", but nobody's perfect).

The title of this collection is apt in two ways: most of these short stories are quite bite-sized (a couple of them can even be devoured in a decent length commercial break), and the tube plays a vital part in several of them. This is most evident in "Fast Forward", Weisser's excursion into the realm of horror fiction in the vein of the Twilight Zone. The story is original, it's compelling, and it works — and I don't want to give the plot away, so on to some of the others.

"The Fight" is the most affecting story here; it's the story of a death in the family and a struggle to come to terms with a changing relationship between generations. "If You Can't Trust Me" is a lot lighter, a two-page job interview that captures an amusing twist at its end. And "Children" looks into a lifestyle that differs from the norm substantially, and a small kid's attempt to understand it.

Ten stories in all, in a no-frills package. A pleasant way to spend an evening when nothing is on the tube. (S-60)

★★★★★

Philip Whalen, **TWO NOVELS: YOU DIDN'T EVEN TRY** and **IMAGINARY SPEECHES FOR A BRAZEN HEAD** ($9.95 from Zephyr Press, 13 Robinson St., Somerville, MA 02145): Whalen is a beatnik zen monk perhaps better known for his rather sparse poetry than for his prose. This volume reprints two novels set int he San Francisco bay area, slicing variously across the origins of the counterculture.

YOU DIDN'T EVEN TRY centers on the social life of a philosopher named Ken, living in San Francisco around the start of the 1960s. As the novel progresses, this life gradually goes out of control, and Whalen's writing gets more diffuse and thoughtful. There are three sections here in both mood and story. In the first Ken and Helen are enjoying a reasonable settled married life, rich in banter and love. But the love sours and the banter turns ugly, and a divorce punctuates the book. Whalen then pulls back a bit to show Ken at an unfulfilling job, buffeted by external forces as he goes through the necessary motions to pay his bills. If this were cinema instead of the written word, this section of the story would be told in a montage of rather dreary medium shots.

Paying the last of the divorce settlement and quitting his job propels Ken into the final section of the book. Here he is free to develop his own life, but Whalen demonstrates the irony of this plan by widening his view still more. Ken is just part of a social network, and the other people in it make demands of him, deliberate or not. The tension is between these demands (mainly in the form of being chased after by three women) and Ken's need to grow up and leave some mark on the world. It's not until the final page that this struggle is resolved and the reader can decide (Whalen does not presume to dictate an answer) whether or not the life leading up to the decision was well spent.

IMAGINARY SPEECHES returns to the same themes with a more complex structure. Written 4 years later than the other novel, it traces the lives of a group of *literati* in short achronological scenes. The effect is somewhat that of looking through a kaleidoscope: all the pieces of the big picture are present, but it takes much mental effort to reassemble them.

If there is a central figure in this book it is Roy Aherne, a larger-than-life poet with a flair for outrageous living. Boozed out and somewhat burned out, possessed of a fame which seems to bewilder him, Aherne spends his scenes searching for a point to it all. Perhaps he succeeds.

These two works share a certain charm which largely rests on Whalen's talents as a prose stylist. They are books delicately balanced on a cusp in history — not precisely in a traditional novelistic style, but not completely overwhelmed by experimentalism. Whalen, with a poet's sharp eye and a playful grasp of the possibilities of description and dialogue, pulls off the task of ordering the world rather well. (250 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Harry Willson, **SOULS AND CELLS REMEMBER: A LOVE STORY** ($8 from Amador Publishers, PO Box 12335, Albuquerque, NM 87195): Another curious book of fiction from the author of **A WORLD FOR THE MEEK** (see FF30). This time it's a story of love and reincarnation, centered on the quest of Thomas Grady to understand the memories he has from before his own birth. Things start to happen when he meets Flora Esperante, a Pueblo indian, with similar questions. This is the start of the story; the rest of the book is devoted to their shared exploration of the past and growing relationship in the present.

It's an interesting tale and Willson carries it off well. Along the way Thomas and Flora explore racism, sex, family ties, metaphysics and history — but the tone does not come across as didactic. Rather, the love story (which proves to span several centuries) is primary, with the other topics helping in characterization. Overall, a pleasant and different read. (188 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Kent Winslow, **DREAM WORLD** ($8 from The Match, PO Box 3488, Tucson, AZ 85722): An anarchist novel that was serialized in Fred Woodworth's journal **THE MATCH**, now available between one pair of covers in its complete form. It's written autobiographically, telling the story of Kent's coming of age in the Sixties and the forces which shaped him into a person determined to resist outside authority.

The book divides neatly into two sections. The first, leading up to a trial on charges of assaulting police during a campus riot, strives to explain why people crack in modern society. As Winslow says "You pick the paper up and here's some guy sitting in a bell-tower gunning people down at random with a high-powered rifle, and nobody professes to have the slightest notion how anyone could have reached such a level of anger and frustration..." Well, after 150 pages or so, it's easy to understand. Kent started out with a martinet of a father, grew up in Mormon town as a condemned unbeliever, and tangled with the ROTC and the Draft. That's enough to make anyone a tad bitter. In this case, it drove him to activism, and some of the book's finest moments come in describing life in a little grouplet of activists, struggling to be pure in a society that wants them wiped out.

The rest of the book, though, was a bit of a disappointment. Kent gets acquitted, and sort of slides through life, putting out a little anarchist magazine, doing odd jobs and typesetting on the side. He gets into a series of love affairs and otherwise just drifts, still peeved at injustice, but on the verge of giving up. This part seems to be more a series of incidents than a plot (it contributes to the autobiographical effect, anyhow), and things finally peter out on a note of wistful hope.

DREAM WORLD is no manual for revolution, no stirring defense of a new philosophy. It's simply one anarchist's attempt to explain himself, and as such it has my respect. (291 pp. pb)

★★★★★

BOOK NOTES:

•**A-Albionic Consulting and Research** (PO Box 20273, Ferndale, MI 48220), in addition to being the publishers of **THE PROJECT**, sell a lot of obscure and hard-to-find conspiracy theory books by mail. SASE for more information.

•**AMERICA OFF THE WALL: THE WEST COAST** is the latest book project of those **MONTHLY...BULLETIN** folks, a guide to nearly 600 of the strangest places to visit in California, Oregon, Washington and Nevada. You can either badger your bookstore into ordering copies from the publisher, John Wiley & Sons, or get them direct from the authors for $11.95 (checks to Kristan Lawson) at 2510 Bancroft Way #207, Berkeley, CA 94704.

•**Arcturus Book Service** (PO Box 831383, Stone Mountain, GA 30083-0023) is a source for new and old ufological and related books and rarities. Send an SASE for their latest catalog.

•**Atlas Press** (10 Park Street, Borough, London, SE1 9AB, ENGLAND) sent me their catalog of limited-edition surrealist books, including works by Jarry, Breton, Eluard, and many others. They cater to the collector as well as the reader, with limited editions of all of heir translations as well as the trade paperbacks.

•**BOOKS ARE EVERYTHING** (R.C. & Elwanda Holland, 302 Martin Dr., Richmond, KY 40475) holds periodic auctions of classic paperbacks, ranging from Westerns to SF to softcore porn. $5 will put you on the mailing list for auction catalogs.

•**Cobble & Mickle Books** (PO Box 6533, Portland, OR 97228-6533) is a small publishing house devoted to "special books for travelers and cooks." Theie current big deal is a book called **CHEAP EATS IN PARIS**. Try an SASE for a catalog.

•**Drumm Books** (PO Box 445, Polk City, IA 50226) is a good source for used SF and related books, as well as Chris Drumm's own set of miniature works by folks like Lafferty. His catalog #32 is out now, and for a buck you can get on the mailing list for it.

•**The Ecumenical Coalition on Third World Tourism** (PO Box 24, Chorakhebua, Bangkok 10230, THAILAND) sells a number of books on "alternative tourism". Try sending a few IRCs for their current catalog.

•**Falcon Press** (1209 S. Casino Center #147, Las Vegas, NV 89104) publish books by Robert Anton Wilson, Antero Alli, Timothy Leary and other dangerous marginal figures. These and other esoterica may be found in their new catalog, possibly available on request.

•**Goode Associates** (PO Box 210733, Nashville, TN 37221) has several book lists available for those interested. There's one of paperback erotica, and a couple of hardcover & trade paperback items for sale. Prices range from a couple of bucks up to around fifty. Either list is $2, which is refundable with a purchase.

•**Inner City Books** (Box 1271, Stn. Q, Toronto, ONT, M4T 2P4, CANADA) is a publisher and distributor exclusively of works building on the work of Carl Jung.

•**The International Bible Society** (PO Box 62970, Colorado Springs, CO 80962-2970) sells large numbers of gospels and Bibles for evangelism. If you can use a caselot of the gospel according to John (300 copies for $30), they're probably your best source.

•**Vivien Johnson** (52 Albemarle St., Newtown, NSW 2042, AUSTRALIA) has written an authorized history/biography on the Radio Birdmen, and is looking for an American co-publisher or distributor. From what I've seen of the project, this is solid, interesting work — if you publish rock books, check it out.

•**Krause Publications** (700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990) is out with the 16th edition of the **STANDARD CATALOG OF WORLD COINS**, available by mail for $34.95 plus $2.50 s&h.

•**Left Bank Distribution** (5241 University Way NE, Seattle, WA 98105) stocks a variety of anarchist and related books for sale by mail. They distribute a lot of works by folks like Chaz Bufe and John Zerzan as well as more classic works. Try an SASE for their latest price list.

•**The Loompanics Unlimited 1988 Summer Catalog Supplement** is out (PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368): If lockpicking, manufacturing drugs, gory videos or backyard cash crops are among your interests, send a buck and sample the Loompanics world of socially unredeeming books.

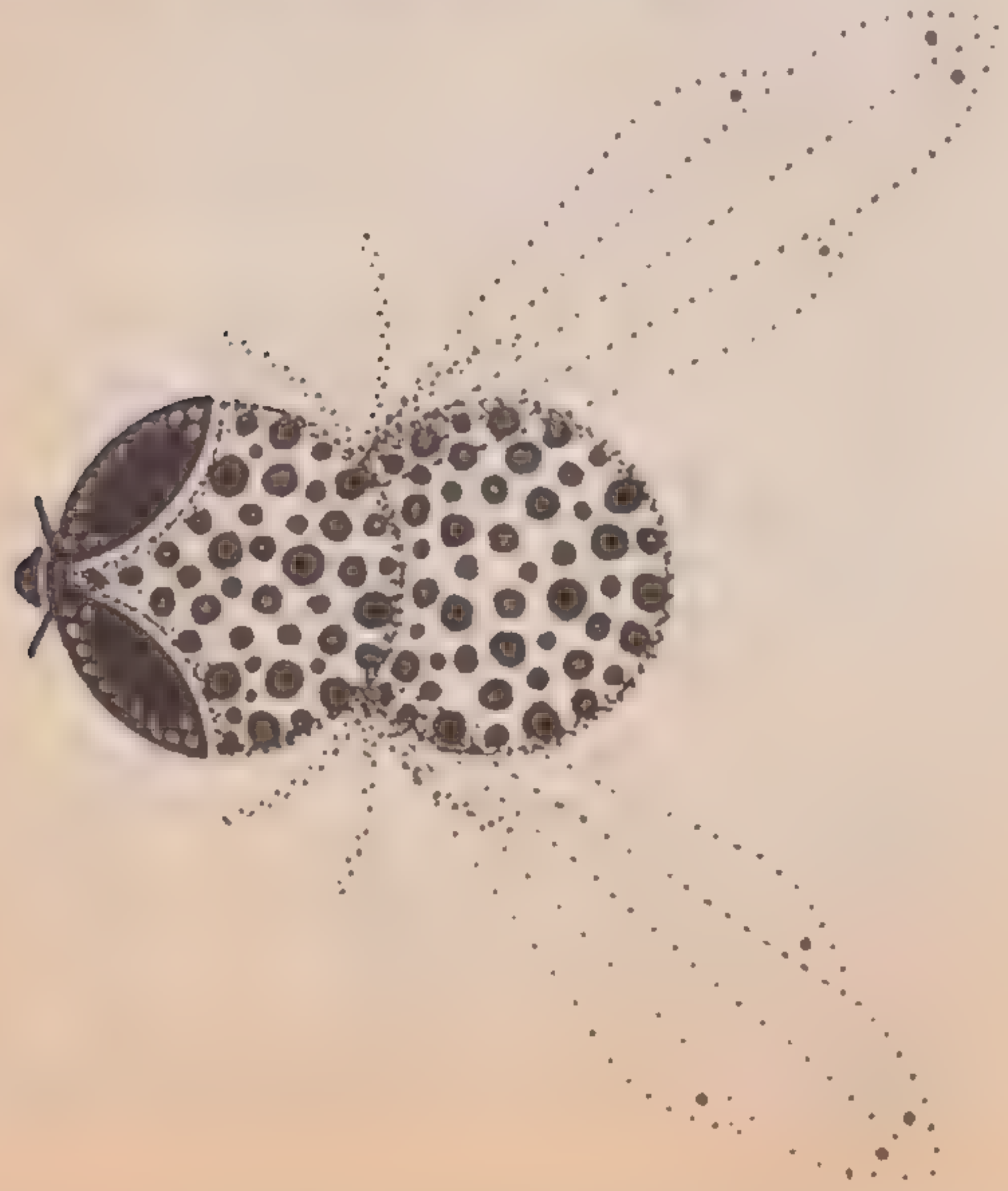
•**Dave McClintock** (PO Box 1949, Warren, OH 44482-1949) will send you his latest catalog of new and used books, including some manuscripts, rarities and collectibles, from the SF, fantasy and horror fields (plus a few odds and ends) for 25¢.

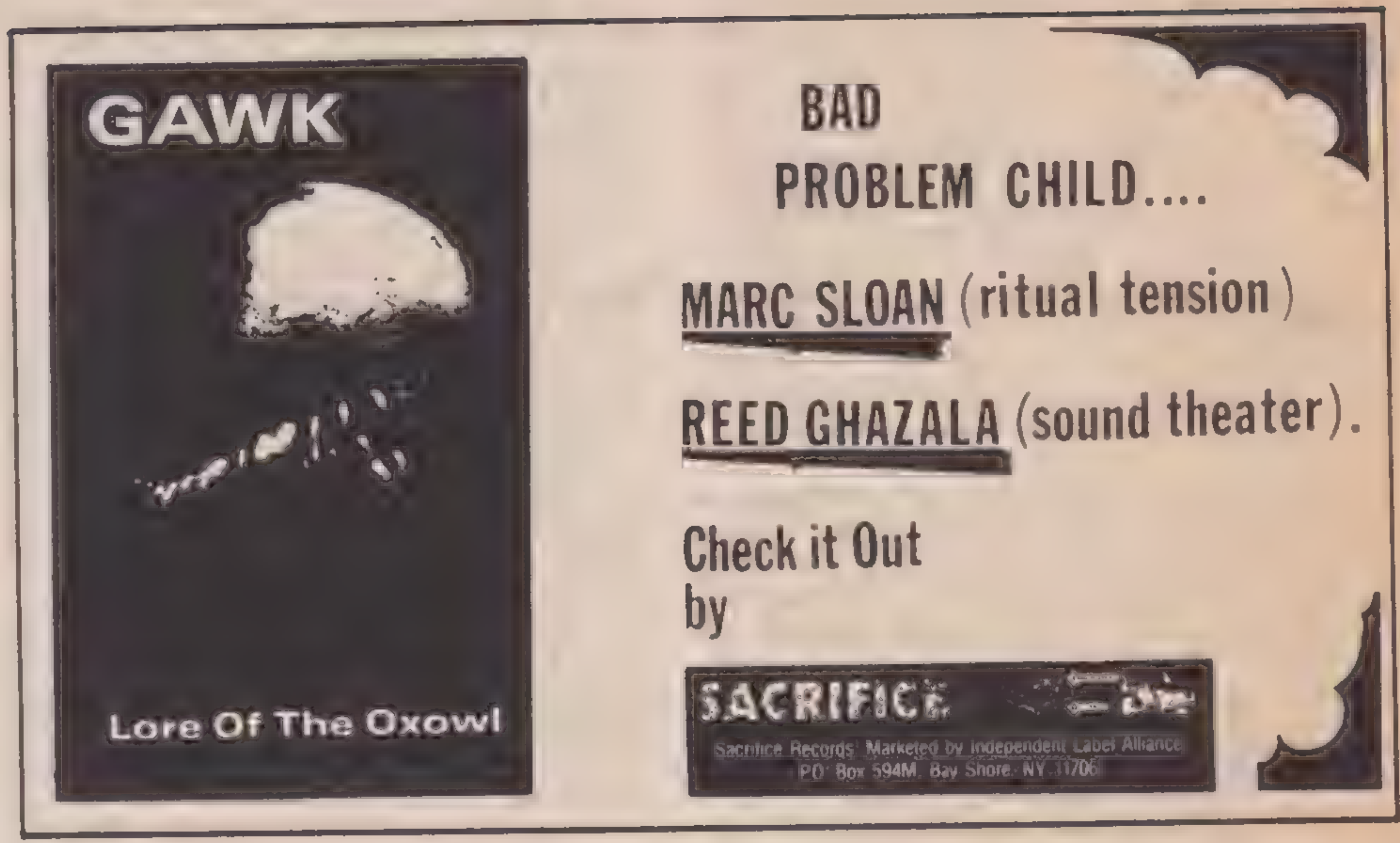
•**Pyramid Books** (PO Box 4536, Salem, MA 01970-0902) is a seller of New Age books, as well as stuff like crystal balls and sculpted mermaids. Judging from the frequency with which they bombard me with full-color catalogs, you can get one just by asking for it.

•**The South African Book Society** (PO Box 1645, Alberton 1450, SOUTH AFRICA) is a mail-order source for dozens of books on South Africa, from classic history to modern politics. They should be willing to part with a catalog for an IRC or two.

•**Yes! Books** (PO Box 10726, Arlington, VA 22210) sells a variety of New Age "Books For Inner Growth". Judging by the number of catalogs they send me, I imagine you can get on their mailing list just for asking.

•**Mark Ziesing** (PO Box 76, Shingletown, CA 96088) sells SF books an other strange things by mail. Even his catalogs are great, full of honest opinions of the sort not usually found in sales pitches. One way I keep up with what's happening in the field is to read this. Send a buck or two to get on the mailing list.





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16 pg. book!

[illegible] benefit Amnesty International

I've been getting checks to "Blotter" from some people. I can't use these — I need all checks to "Roy Tompkins". I suspect most of these people are not FF readers...All the same it couldn't hurt to reiterate to your readers the necessity of proper payment. As it is I barely break even on printing my magazine without postage costs like sending checks back.

Roy Tompkins
BLOTTER

/* Readers, be sure you take note of this: if I list a person's name in the address for a zine, you should always make checks out to that name! */

★★★★★

Do you know how much mail you create?...I received my FF30 on May 19th here in Raleigh, and this is the 24th. Mail exchanges in 5 days originated in FF: 1 Factsheet to me, 5 trades to me, 5 trade copies sent out, 5 orders received,. 5 issues sent for orders, 3 SASE's to me, 3 SASE's back. 27 interactions in 5 days from one listing in FF. Hmmmm...800 listings in **FACTSHEET FIVE** times 27 interactions. The amount is 21,600 interactions in five days or 4000 a day. Think of the cost of postage. The Postal Service should be funding you.

Dallas Swan
IN YOUR MAIL

★★★★★

Yikes! **FACTSHEET FIVE** arranged in headings/categories!? Ugh!!! When zinedom becomes reduced to "definitions" it loses its soul. If I want to "look up something" I'll get a Sears and Roebuck catalog. When I want to roam and play, I go for FF. Listing things alphabetically as FF does affords the possibilities of constant surprise, i.e., *Fun. Zines just wanna have fun!* Headings are for no fun school where you're not supposed to think. Headings are for the lowest common denominator marketplace.

Bob McGlynn

★★★★★

Let me come out in favor of subject headings for **FACTSHEET FIVE**. My boss at work always says that disorder is fine up to a point, then we have to organize somehow, & I think **FACTSHEET FIVE** (at least the zine section) has gotten too large to remain a morass. Headings will make the publication of more service to its readers....One thing I'm not sure what you'll want to do about: Many items you review (that aren't objects or music, etc.) aren't books but aren't zines, but you usually review them under zines. These are onetime pamphlets and other such things. A pamphlet section I'd appreciate, especially since they have a different aspect than magazines (& are more ephemeral b/c of this).

ge(ofhu)than(thon)NY

/* Ask and ye shall receive... */

★★★★★

Appreciated your review of **THE BUG** in FF30! Think you got it about right. Would prefer "IRCs *or exchange*" — though maybe exchange is taken for granted?

—BUG ed.

/* Yeah, I generally assume we're all interested in exchanging publications — since everyone reviewed here exchanges with me. In the rare cases where someone specifies that they won't exchange, I try to mention that in the ordering information. */

★★★★★

I'm a photographer and shoot a lot of NYC shows, hardcore, thrash, metal, underground rock, etc. I'd like to get in touch with zine people who would be interested in photos. I'm not a capitalist so I am not into selling, just getting them to people who could use them. I do all my own processing and b&w printing and do some damn good work.

Michele Borriello
1763 74th St., 2nd Fl.
New York, NY 11204

★★★★★

When listed price is something like "$10/yr", could you tell us how many issues that covers?

Carl Bettis

/* Whenever possible, I do state prices in terms like "$10/5 issues". Unfortunately, a lot of zines don't make it clear how many issues a subscription covers, leaving me no choice but to put down the length of time instead. */

★★★★★

My book, **A 'Home Party Platform**, carefully distinguishes between the general tenets of a 'Home' Party — urban/rural balance; a capitalist/communist synthesis; and grassroots democracy — and my own specific policy proposals. Thus, your assertion that I intend to form a 'Home' party "to promote (my) ideas" might cause a reader to think I'm just another bullfrog looking for a lily pad to take over....All policies in *the* platform would have to be voted for by party members. My ideas — that is, *a* 'Home' Party platform — would be only alternatives among others when the time comes to vote.

Calling mine "top-down political solutions" may likewise confuse. I assume you're pumping the 'think globally, act locally' rallying cry which counsels a general tuning out of electoral politics in favor of local activism. Well, fine, you have your point, but combined with your other comments, a reader might think I've a dictatorial itch somewhere up my sleeve.

Finally, your "objections to the happy technological future": You're writing here, I guess, about the telephone and the airship, two early 20th century developments that seem rather rustic compared to modern gadgetry....Since I know you aren't worried about rocking the boat with the mighty power of the telephone, airship, or even computer, I have to figure you're rushed, and simply don't have the time to absorb all of what any one book has to offer.

Jared Scarborough
TREETOP PANORAMA

/* The point in your first paragraph is well taken, and I apologize for mis-stating it. With your second paragraph you're only half on the mark — I do not want to "tune out" electoral politics, but rather want to transcend it and make it obsolete. Remember, I'm an anarchist. But I will hasten to assure people that it's plain to any reader that you're not a would-be dictator.

As to the technology, it's not the airship and the telephone so much as the computer network implied by your direct democracy proposals on overhauling Congress that worries me. In fact, it's not even the computers but the entire technological infrastructure they stand on which I object to. I don't think that a "happy technological future" is so much *wrong* as *impossible*. I used to be a smiling technocrat, sure that we'd fix each new problem in time. Now I suspect that if we don't junk industrial culture, it will junk us. Computers kill people and exploit other people in their manufacture, even before they are switched on, and I don't see any easy way to manufacture them ethically.

Of course, I still use the things all the time. But then my life is a mass of contradictions, as are all lives. */

★★★★★

I am shocked (ref. your review of the "Pray with Rev. Ewing Night Light"), considering the number of mailing lists you must be on, that you aren't familiar with the name of Rev. Eqing. He is, (or was), of course, proprietor of Rev. Ewing's Church-By-Mail. Four or five years ago, I used to get missives fro the good reverend all the time, offering come-ons like gold-plated prayer crosses merely for asking more information about his Church-By-Mail — which, best as I could figure, was some sort of unholy pyramid scam. "I began praying with the Rev. Ewing's Church-By-Mail, and inside of two weeks I had a new car and a color teevee!" Yes, friends, testify with the Good Rev. Ewing, and be assured of — this is the phrase which has lodged itself, verbatim, in my memory: "a continuous flow of money blessings!"

Our postal system is a wonderful thing, verdad?

Richard Brandt
LIGHT IN THE BUSHEL

★★★★★

Regarding tampering with the mail: to my knowledge, tampering would occur only at the station receiving the publication for mailing, or somewhere at the facility either processing the mail for delivery or at the delivery station itself. If it occurred at the latter, then the tampering may be occurring from one of two sources: the US Postal Inspection Service (the Post Office FBI — if *this* is the source, then the PIS is investigating the

"I spent lots of time reading your book, as I was fascinated by it."

-Mike Gunderloy
Factsheet Five

A 'Home' Party Platform

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from the publsher
(RRt. 1, Box 160,
Payson, Il 62360)

publication being opened, not the person receiving it), or from an employee somewhere in the facility. Now, mind you that I said *if* the tampering is occurring. The fact that a magazine had its seal broken does not in itself mean it was tampered with. The mail processing machinery I am aware of *could* damage it in such a way.

If the tampering is occurring at the receiving end, then it is occurring either from a random postal employee at the station that processes the mail for delivery, or from a postal inspector instructed to conduct a "mail cover" for mail being received to a particular address.

One suggestion is to keep track of the problems with the magazine being "damaged". If it continues, make a *big* stink. And do it all at one time. Press, House Post Office Subcommittee, local congressman, senator, postmaster. I know, you are asking those responsible to clean up their own house (which they don't want to do). But, on the other hand, you are serving notice, too, that you suspect something is up, and you want something done about it.

A. Postal Worker

★★★★★

Regarding the review of **DARK LILY**, the main problems were (a) that you implied that the whole mag was written by one (non-Adept) person and (b) that is had something to do with Crowley. (a) the mag is under the guidance of an Adept, and we use that term to mean one who has crossed the abyss; though naturally we have contributors who are at varying stages of development (and it's a good thing we have, because we have readers at varying stages of development too), (b) there would be no point in following a failure. Actually, there is an article in DL10 on that subject!

Magda
DARK LILY

/* Publishers, if you think I've screwed up in your review, please write to correct me, as Magda has. I'm a reasonable guy and happy to learn things about new zines (or old ones, for that matter) and to print rebuttals or corrections if necessary. */

★★★★★

I am trying desperately to locate a copy of one of those marvelous **NATIONAL LAMPOON** editorial cartoons that had *everything* in it, jammed in like sardines in a tine, but *especially including* the Evil Dutchman and his lady, Katrinka, w/huge wooden shoes, Evil Grins, toothbrush moustaches and all. If you know *anyone* who has a copy of such, tell them PUH-LEEZE send me a photocopy and I'll pay for the copy and postage.

Ricky c/o Dragwyla
PO Box 45792
Seattle, WA 98145-0792

THE LAST DAYS OF CHRIST THE VAMPIRE

by J.G. Eccarius

Religion, patriotism, anti-communism, world leaders, historic heroes, all the false idols of our time are lined up for a good rump kicking in this savage slice of sacrilegious and bawdy burlesque.
-Eva Von Kesselhausen
Small Press Review

"A book of stunning originality, full of surrealistic shocks and haunting images."
- Robert Anton Wilson

"One of the most wildly blasphemous books we have seen."
- Fifth Estate

"In the end, it's an inspiring novel, at least to those of us fed up with the system."
- Mike Gunderloy
Factsheet Five

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★★★★★

Here's a wonderful thing, a truly wonderful thing. It's a telephone number: 011 861 256 3483. As you can probably see, it's an international number. You can call China on it, and report evil counterrevolutionary dissidents and other rude people. It';s not a free call, but there is a certain joy — which everyone must price for themselves — at calling up and reporting Deng Xioping, Li Peng & the Great Helmsman himself. Yes, a certain joy all right.

Another important thing to remember in these troubled times: Josef Stalin (the Greatest Friend of the Workers of the World) was pro-life. Do you think Jerry Falwell knows that? Do you think that it's enough to get Uncle Joe into Heaven?

Raoul

★★★★★

Please be kind enough to read the way your reviewer listed my work. ["Phoenix's premiere self promoter...an orgy of self-promotion."] I find this kind of biggotry and attacks on me (the ARTIST) typical of a scared rabbit mentality. I thought the whole idea of it all is self-Publishing Self Promoting — the last issue (You), or they, attacked my Ego. I will boycott and Send flyers & works of art out to as many other self Promoting artists as I can. To draw attention to this illness. I thought your job was just to list the magazines, not attack the publishers or the contents. We get that enough from Corporate Amerika. Or is that what you've become? Maby I'm just to sensitive Huh?

Shane Paul

/* "I promote myself any way I can..." — Shane Paul, **LICKING WOUNDS #5**. Most people in the small press concentrate on producing something interesting and then promote it. You're the only person I know who makes such a big deal of promoting himself instead of his work. It's hardly surprising that reviews of your publications mention this fact. */

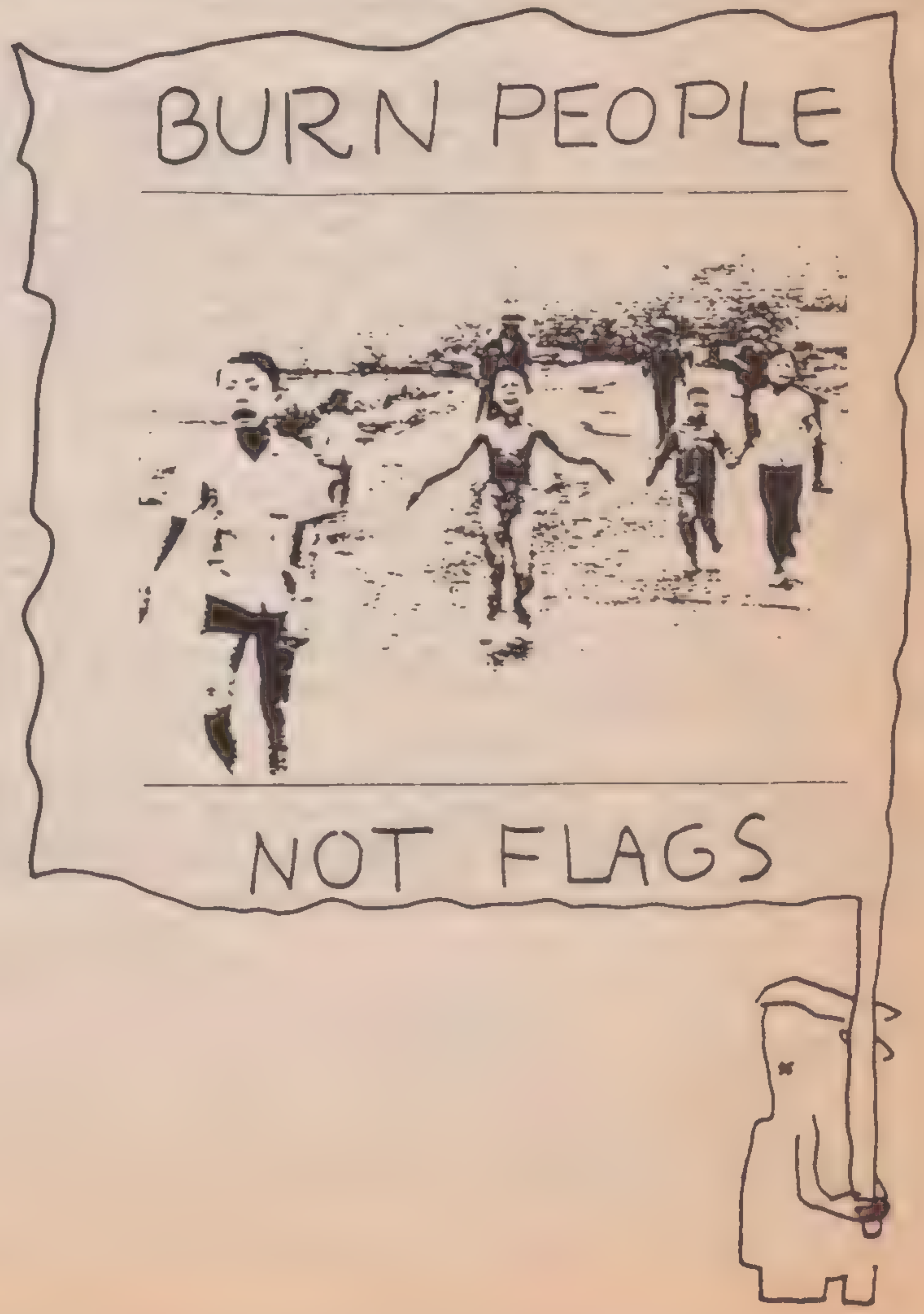
★★★★★

Back home in Ljubljana I'm a regular D.J. at the Radio Student which is independent non-commercial radio station. Radio Student was established in 1969 by the University of Ljubljana. We broadcast 64 hours of programme weekly....

Our programme concept is to cover informations & music overlooked or ignored by other media. We're listened to at peak hours by population of 400,000...

I and all other D.J.s also cover mostly independent music scene. During my shows I also review fanzines & books. The main reason of this letter to **FF** magazine is to inform your readers that *we do care and do something!* So if you're in a band, publish zine, book or whatever you think is important to be heard around the world, please write. For my radio show send informations or anything else to David Krzisnik, Marinkov TRG 14, 61000 Ljubljana, Yugoslavia. All other mail directly to the radio address: Radio Student (Niger), Studentsko Naselje, Blok 8, 61000 Ljubljana, Yugoslavia.

David Krzisnik



why publish?
②
N. G. MCCLERNAN ©1987

Thornton Kimes, **KINDRED VOICES:**
Because if I don't, I'll explode!

★★★★★

Philippe Billé, **DOCUMENTS-PAGES:**

The essential function of edition is a double function: the one of a selective mirror. The editor chooses among the unique productions that are submitted to him, or among his own productions, what seems to deserve to be reflected, diffused into the society. He publishes these documents: he turns them public by the means of serial technical reproduction, which multiplies their visibility, their legibility or their audibility. The commercial imperative perverted this function: the professionals of press and edition have a propensity to publish according to the salability of the product. We can see too that the financial survival of the professional press, with very few exceptions, is totally depending upon the invading diffusion of commercial advertising.

The small press (small, independent, parallel, underground, etc.) has an impact (at least an immediate impact) inferior to the one of massive professional edition, But it can (or could) have superior credibility, because of its sincerity, its lack of cupidity. Photocopy became the privileged instrument of this press.

Though: all what is xeroxed, or xeroxable, is not necessarily interesting. I consider that an important part, maybe the greater part of what is produced in the xerox press, is as forgettable as the insignificant blah of the commercial press. A lot of xeroeditors are content with sterile buffonery.

Lloyd Dunn, the editor of PhotoStatic, in Iowa City, forces admiration, at least mine, by the energy, the coherence and the perspicacity of his editorial activity. He is interested at the same time by the intrinsic aesthetic qualities of photocopy, and by its socio-political importance. But the perspective he defines in FF30 lets a subsisting risk: the one of fetishizing photocopy. SO I do not want to oppose myself to his declaration, but somehow to complete it, insisting upon this point: we must be rigorous in our choices, we must be as intransigent as possible, though simultaneously and systematically skeptical. In short: vigilant towards the enemy and towards ourselves.

★★★★★

Peter Riden, **THE AFFILIATE:**

For many of Us sharing this type of venture, the reason behind publishing is to extend and spread the dream we initiated one day or another of being able to offer to others our own vision of a World of full collaboration and understanding while sharing and exchanging with those capable to reciprocate this visionary feeling. In these situations, the readers would oftenly become active participants.

After facing 20 years of recurrent rejection by most medias for a well credited achievement from most of the world-wide lucky ones who constantly supported My *CONCEPT*'s project, it became obvious that all indications were leading to self-exposure by self-publication. But a factor even more important to Me than My last 20 years of struggle would really ignite the bursting move of July 1987. It is that I knew of being surrounded by many other deserving ones never given their proper credits, neither the chance of being talked about positively. If I was to help in anyway to uncover these silenced but yet truly worthy individuals...then I was having the medium for doing so: **THE AFFILIATE.**

"THE AFFILIATE" is on a mission, I should say. The personal adversities combined with the tenacious subsistence and growth of *CONCEPT* were to prove Me right in coming with this most important linking tool. And the notion of Universalism is indeed one most important state of mind nowadays.

All organizations and/or publications converging towards this ultimate goal of global conscienceness are to be contacted and the most cooperative elements are to be starting to really link and work together.

Through publishing I'm seeking all those brothers and sisters, from all over the World, who want to share, participate, reciprocate in this universal venture, hosting one another, encouraging and comforting if needed at times and discovering that we are not alone out there, but part of an ever growing consensus of Unification through attempting to better our living conditions on Our planet Earth.

By the way, *CONCEPT* is still going on thanks to our growing number of Affiliates. The support is always welcome from everywhere.

FACTSHEET FIVE is certainly another vivid example of the convergence of many active elements from all over the World getting the most needed chance to be presented to the readers. These are ultimate reasons WHY we shall continue to publish — and continue to present the many similar ventures is what we'll gladly do.

★★★★★

Buddah Worthmore, **THE BAG:**

I publish **THE BAG** because I need the instant gratification and immediate feedback that I get from it. If I tried a more traditional route to feed my writing "jones", I feel I would get frustrated with the process(es) required. While I hope to someday venture into a situation that might prove both rewarding and recognizable, for now, **THE BAG** offers me a format to rant in. I'm not saying that **THE BAG** doesn't require thought or work, but it is quick. If I were to be assigned a job reporting City Commission meetings for the local paper I think I would go fishing instead. I guess I'm a non-conformist all the way and self-publishing is my way of feeling like I've created something without all the attendant responsibilities associated with deadlines, form, and content. Sort of journalistic Jazz...

★★★★★

Lobias Fogcutter, Grinning Idiot Press:

Well, I used to be a fundamentalist (cringe?), and saw the light, I also seem to have picked up a few opinions concerning the sad state of affairs of life, the universe, and everything. Then I got a nice word processor. Neat! Onward!

I started writing tirades against the more irritating things in life: Ollie North polishing his shoes with the Constitution, greenback money, eco-suicide, the administration that made catsup a vegetable, and so many other things. it was so VERY good, that feeling of righteous indignation; like a clear, bright flame, burning in my heart. Burning my emotional energy, time, money, life, to no effect on anything I care about.

So I stopped. Not caring, but burning and venting. I now seek something quiet, positive, nurturing to say, to think, to do. I will write, but it will be to say something to inform, to direct the reader who needs a compass, or a little hope in these new dark ages. I choose a new path for myself.

Anyway, this is a recent change for me, and some people have been writing to me on the basis of out of date blurbs in the illustrious **FACTSHEET FIVE**. I decided to write this to let you all know what Grinning Idiot Press is up to these days. It seems this old agnostic is beginning to think about the emotional and intellectual side of life in a positive way again, and do other things than decry the gloom and stink of it all. There are enough other people doing that; I leave them to it. I prefer to pursue other goals, and start over emotionally. I guess G.I.P. played a part in my healing; I may use it for other purposes, with a bit of Erisian foolishness for the grins of it. I invite correspondence on just about anything, but dark despair and related mental states will get short shrift. I don't sub to the Polyanna school of (non)thinking; I just don't care to wallow in it any more. *It* doesn't matter, and *I do.*

★★★★★

Bryan Cholfin, Broken Mirrors Press:

I was talking about this with some friends who are also involved in the small press scene, and the best excuse I can think of is Genetic Damage. Doing what we do is totally irrational by the measure of the society we live in, but we do it anyways. We are told that we should be "realistic" (i.e., live down to other people's expectations), but we are driven by the "Denial of Reality" gene.

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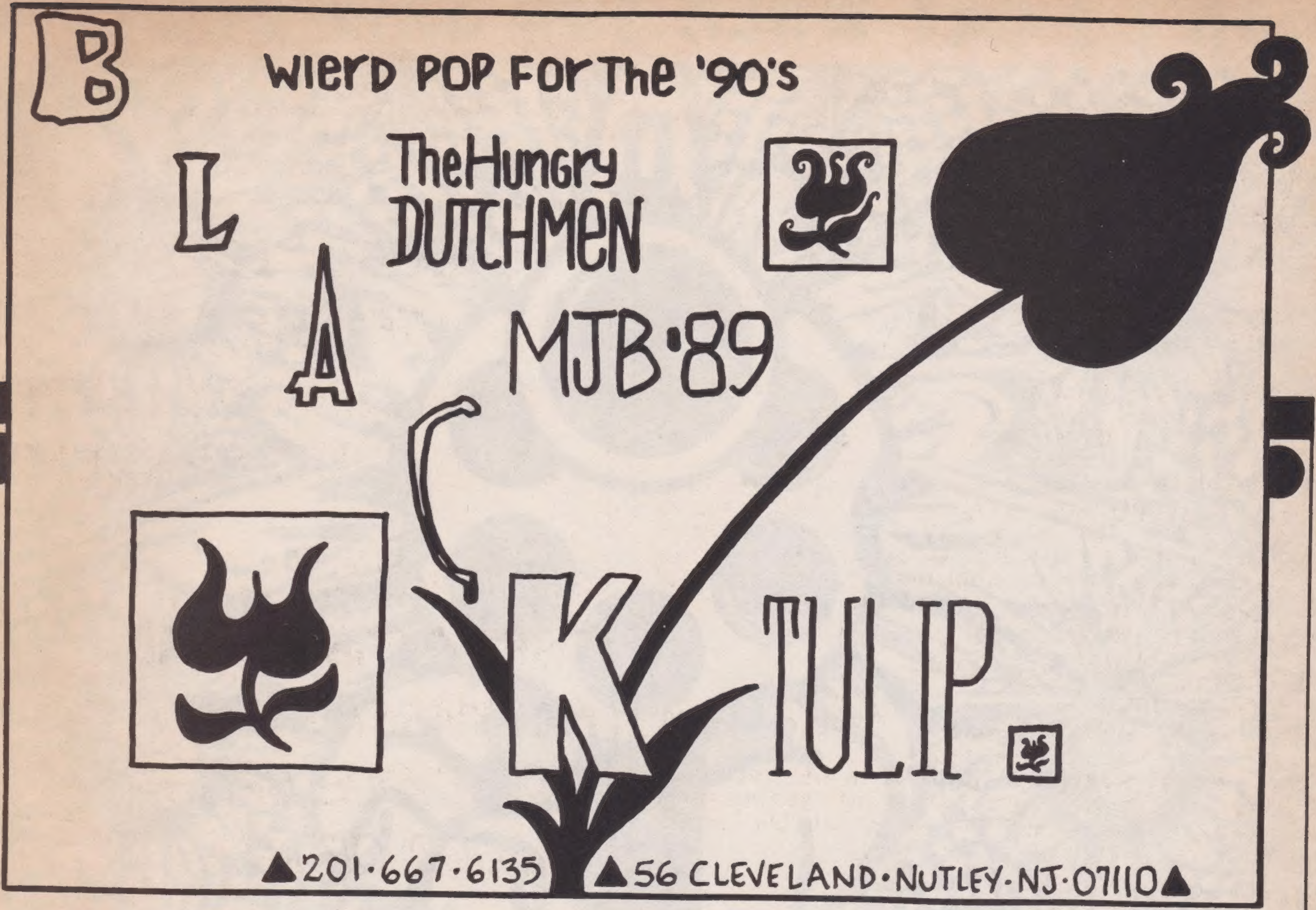
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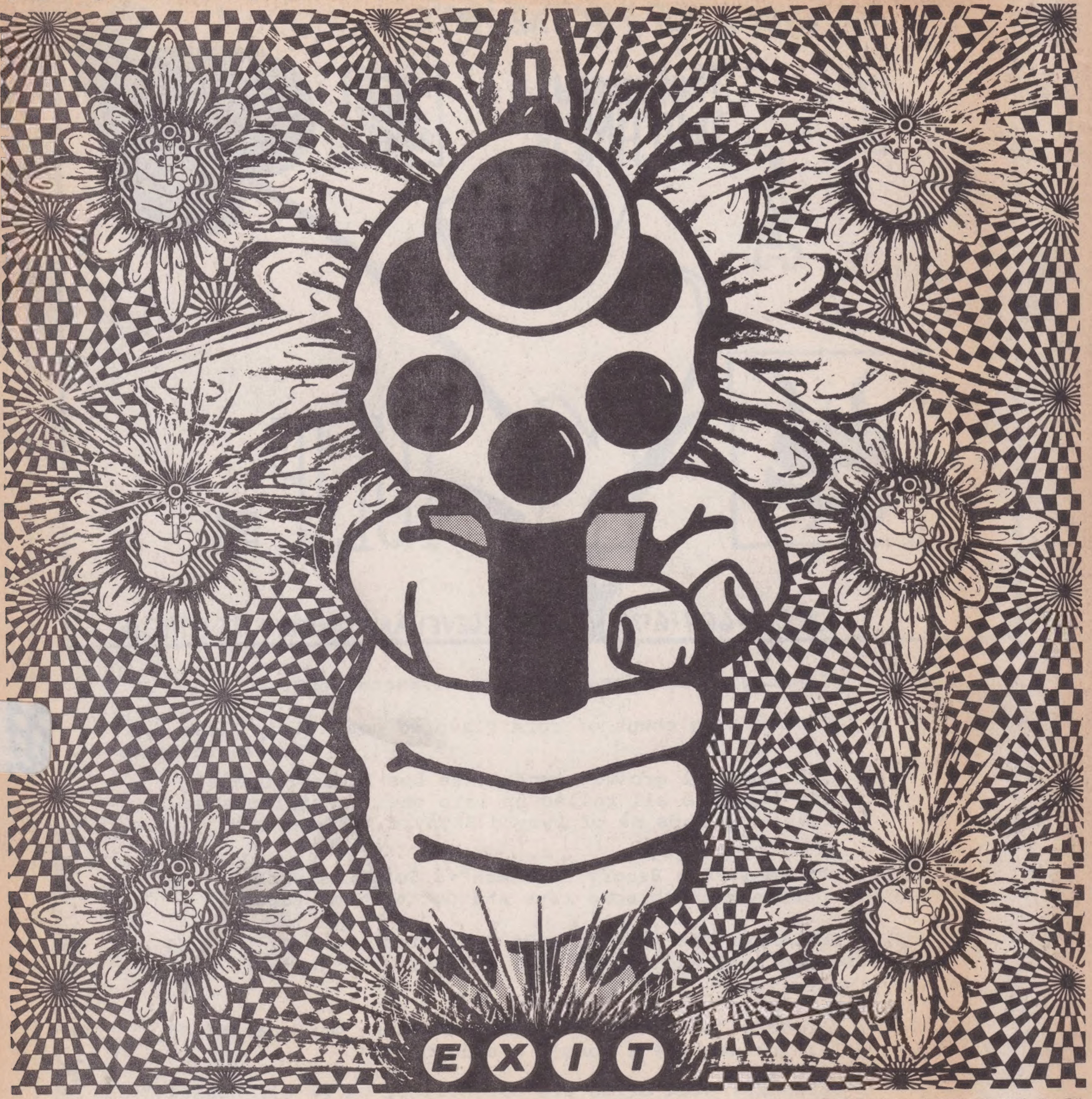

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